

* The Farm. *

Significance of Color of Domestic Animals

DR. A. S. HEATH.

Breed colors of animals are well worth consideration. Colors are very often characteristic of the special breeds of many of our domestic animals of all species. Even the naturally white animals sometimes throw offspring of a pale, delicate, sickly shade of color that indicates a feeble constitution. These are the animals that are liable to sickness. They do not have the physical power to resist disease. Like delicate children, they take cold easily, and are the first of the flock or herd to take on inflammations, or to contract contagious diseases. Slight injuries prove annoying, troublesome, serious or even fatal, while those of the naturally robust constitutions resist disease, and do not suffer from slight injuries, nor do they fall off in flesh to any appreciable degree, nor shrink in their products of meat, or milk or wool. The characteristic fawn of the Jersey may indicate constitutional vigor when naturally plain and marked, while a pale, delicate shade of fawn, or of any other of the robust colors of the breed as plainly indicate delicacy.

The Jersey, no matter how robust, never has a jet black color. Yet, the pale shade of smoky black as plainly indicates delicacy of constitution and lack of stamina as do any of the other delicate shades of the other colors. The strongly marked fawn and white, or the Jersey gray and white, or the smoky brown and white, if strongly painted by nature, plain and strong and bright, show vigor, and strength, and health. And besides the beautiful and strong contrasts are decidedly indicative of sound health and capability of large product yield and of long life.

This is tantamount to saying that the darker the natural breed colors of animals the more likely are they to have good constitutions. I expect to have my views controverted, and shall be glad if truth may be evolved. But neither contumacious nor contumelious controversy results in good. I therefore only bespeak a corresponding sincerity of purpose, for my convictions are the result of more than half a century of observation and study.

When the brown of the inner ears of the wild White Chillingham pales and fades away, it is a positive evidence that the constitution and stamina of that naturally hardy race of primal breed of cattle is also paling and fading away, and that unnatural confinement and forced inbreeding has stamped that progenitor breed of the bovine races of Europe with the infallible marks of decay.

This fading of the natural colors of the once hardy breeds of our domestic animals is a premonition that errors of breeding have crept in, and are vitiating the constitutions of our live stock. The sooner the weaklings are removed from our breeding stock the better.

As like begets like, we should dislike to breed from weaklings. The best, the healthiest and the noblest are none too good of all of our domestic animals to breed from.

When any of our domestic animals show an unnatural breed color of a faint pink tint of a milky, indefinite whiteness, with pale, flesh colored noses, sickly, pearly paleness surrounding the eyes, with ashy skin and hoofs as though bleached, it is evidence positive that that animal has not constitution enough to give color, health, vigor or power, or hopeful life to its progeny, and the sooner its pale, thin, poor, vicious blood is poured out to the last drop the better. For then it can no longer impoverish and poison the blood of the flocks and herds of the conscientious breeder.—N. Y. Tribune.

Fruit Notes.

No adequate census of the fruit trade of America has ever been made, but the estimate by Mr. Dreiser is that one billion a year would be a moderate one.

An illustration of the development of a fruit is given in the little Rocky Ford

muskmelon. It was first heard of in Colorado in 1896. In 1898 fifteen hundred carloads were sent out, and to-day 23,000 acres, scattered throughout nineteen States, are devoted solely to the raising of this variety of melon.

The enormous peach crop of 1900 was distributed so that the little State of Delaware gave 4,000,000 baskets, the State of Connecticut 4,000,000 more and Maryland about the same number, while Michigan goes ahead of all these, reaching probably 5,000,000. One man in Marshallville, Ga., is reported as controlling the crop of 120,000 trees—the largest peach orchard yet reported.

The same authority tells us that twenty years ago all the strawberries eaten in New York City were grown on Long Island and in New Jersey. They now come to New York City from Alabama, Mississippi, Tennessee and Arkansas, as well as from Virginia, the Carolinas, Georgia and Florida.

Can the fruit grower reasonably anticipate as large an increase in demand for his fruit during the next twenty-five years? There does not seem to be the least reason for doubting this increased demand. We have now the foreign market for apples and for pears, and it is not impossible to ship some of our more perishable fruit to London and Liverpool when it takes only five days to cross the ocean. At any rate rapid transit gives the orchardist of New York the Southern market and the grape grower of Texas the Northern market. The best advice is to go ahead and plant if you propose to make a thorough study of your work. The day for slovenliness in the orchard has passed away. Slovens are cutting down their orchards, while wise men are planting them.—(E. P. Powell.)

I have known of many orchards being nearly ruined at one pruning by an inexperienced person. The greatest injury is in cutting away all of the lower branches of a tree after it has been set twenty or thirty years. At that age nature cannot easily repair the injury. It is cheaper to pay a first class orchardist double wages than to let a novice do the work for nothing.—Ex.

A bay pony found at Pacific Junction, Iowa, is believed to be the horse of the kidnapers of Eddie Cudahy. Mr. Cudahy expresses himself as pleased with the progress of the case and believes that the kidnapers will be apprehended. He makes a denial of sensational threats he is reported to have made in certain despatches.

A House Without Books

Who enters here leaves hope behind."—The Peoples Cyclopaedia.

Might be written over the doorway of the house that has no library. In saying "library" one doesn't necessarily mean a big, elegantly furnished room with a thousand books put up on polished shelves. A very useful library may be contained in a few good books. The People's Cyclopaedia is a library in itself of such magnitude that one may read and reread for years, and still find its treasures inexhaustible.

In consulting a Cyclopaedia one usually finds it necessary to keep well in mind the subject to be looked for or one will be led away by the matters of interest that are met on every page. There is nothing in literature that is quite so fascinating. There are stories of ancient cities, with illustrations and maps. You seem to stand upon the ground over which dead-and-dust armies marched to "glory and the grave." You fly with the terrified populace amid the ruins of earth-quakes and before the scorching rivers rolling down from volcanoes. You peer into prehistoric ruins with the explorer. You pore over the names and achievements of the eminent in all walks of life. You immerse yourself profoundly in the records of what is great and wonderful. When you pause simply because you are surfeited, you look up from the book with tired eyes and say, "what next?"

Depend upon it, whatever is next will be contained in the last edition of The People's Cyclopaedia. It has become so necessary to such a multitude of readers that the publishers feel in a measure under obligations to meet the demand. The terms of purchase are arranged in so liberal a manner that a family must be poor indeed that must forego the delight of owning the six large, handsome volumes. They can be bought by paying only five cents a day. They will be paid for long before they have grown stale or unprofitable.

Take Care of the Children.

At this time of the year every mother should jealously watch the health of her children. At the very first sign of a cough or cold she should adopt measures to break it up, for it is the precursor of much more acute and dangerous complications—such as Whooping Cough or Croup—perhaps even Consumption—these surely follow in the train of neglected colds. The enervating influences of summer leave a child's system weakened—it needs toning up and invigorating, the blood is thin and ought to be enriched, the whole body requires vitalizing. For more than half a century the best known agent for this purpose has been **Shiloh's Cough and Consumption Cure**. It is a never failing remedy. It has rebuilt and strengthened more feeble constitutions than any other medicine during that long period. It is guaranteed to bring these great results—if it fails to do so, the purchase money will be refunded in full. Read the opinion of Betsey Forbes, an old lady, whose grand-children owe their lives to Shiloh's Cure.

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The English people, says the Tribune's London correspondent, will be delighted if the Prince of Wales can accept the invitation which it is to be reported to be extended to him by the New York Yacht Club to be present at the races for the America's cup. The prince has more than once expressed a desire to see one of the great yachting matches between England and America, but the Queen will not allow him to visit Australia for the commonwealth celebrations, and on account of her age and increasing infirmities she may not consider it advisable that he should again cross the Atlantic Ocean during her lifetime.

It is a remarkable fact that the men who participated in the negro lynching at Akron have been arrested, tried and 22 of them found guilty and sentenced to terms of imprisonment varying from a few days to five years. Almost invariably lynchings whether at the North or South, have been screened by the prosecuting officers, or, if brought to trial, acquitted by the jury. In this case the almost universal rule has been reversed and most of those caught have been promptly convicted and punished.