

skim-milk, available for feeding calves or for the making of cheese, as well as for domestic purposes, purposes which butter-milk could not serve.

The scalding process is a very simple one. The milk is kept in tin pans and subjected to a heat a little under the boiling point, and this after it has stood from the previous day, so that all the milk of yesterday would be scalded this morning, and be set again in the cool till to-morrow morning, when it would be skimmed and the cream made into butter. The heat must be raised slowly, and no smoke must be in the apartment where the scalding is done. It has, moreover, to be kept still, not agitated or shaken, in order to get the cream to raise well, as it has only the slight difference of its specific gravity to enable it to raise at all. If allowed to raise to the boiling point by neglect the object is defeated. There are several points of detail besides what are here stated, but these will give our readers some idea of the principles of the system; the thing is no novelty, and it is in full work in the locality stated. The most convenient shape and size of the tins are as follows:—Diameter of bottom, 10 inches; diameter at brim, 16 inches; depth, 7 inches; made of strong tin-plate, with a wire handle at each side.

The vast amount of capital embarked in live stock on the farm makes every little item connected with their management of importance; every leakage is a loss, however small the cranny may be by which it is let out; and, on the other hand, every item of profit, however small, secured from materials running to waste, adds up in the balance-sheet to the credit side. The scalding process is a cleanly one, it is therefore a change for the better, and deserves a fair trial if for no other reason than to get rid of the slavery of the churn.—*A. F. in Gardener's Chron.*

ERADICATING THISTLES.

Many methods have been given, by which our crops could mature, without being interspersed with thistles; but the difficulty in the way of disposing of them, by summer fallowing, is the great expense in labor, etc., to accomplish it, and with this only. You must begin early with an energetic, willing plowman, good team and sharp points, because if the stalk is not cut off by the passing of the plow, you have only transplanted it, ready to come through to breathe the air again and grow. Now, the secret in disposing or ridding our fields of noxious weeds, is by really depriving them of the breath of life.

This is more particularly the case with quack (or switch) grass; plowing or cultivating land infested with it, to destroy it, has but little effect, unless in an uncommonly dry season, and a vast amount of handling of it, from the fact, that if there

is but one joint left in the soil it will send forth blades and grow, and it certainly cannot be plowed or cultivated, without more or less leaving them in that position. With the system of rotation of crops, no farmer need be much troubled with thistles, but with quack grass it is quite different.—*Cor. Country Gent.*

WHEN TO SOW GRASS SEED.

A correspondent of the *New England Farmer* says:—It has been the practice of most farmers to sow grass seed in the Spring, with wheat, barley, and oats. This will do, if the land is in good condition to seed down in April, or early in May. But when the land is too wet to work until late in May, or early in June, it is better to sow grain without grass seed, and when the grain is taken off, plow in the stubble, put on the manure, sow on the grass seed, and lay the ground down smooth. It is better for the following reasons:

1st. The young grass will make a more vigorous growth than when sown late in May, with grain, because the grain will grow up quick and overpower the young grass which will be feeble at best. And when the grain is taken off, it will sometimes die out by drouth and the heat of the sun, and if it does not die, it will make but a sickly growth.

2d. The land is generally dryer in August and in better condition to seed down, and it puts the stubble out of the way, and farmers have more time to do the work well.

THE SWALLOW NUISANCE.

Whilst the swallows are cheerful visitors, and beneficial to the husbandman as industrious insect destroyers, they are apt to be troublesome. The barn swallow does not give much annoyance, but the chimney fellow, should his family take up their quarters in a bedroom or sitting room chimney, is a great nuisance. From dawn to dusk peace and quiet are banished from the room, the droppings fall down upon the grate, and occasionally the eggs and some of the young birds as well; now and again, indeed, a complete nest (made of twigs glued together by the salivary secretion of the bird) will fall down, nestlings and all, the parent birds flying helplessly after them. They also introduce parasitic vermin into dwellings. There are two methods of preventing the building of their nests in chimneys. One is to put a piece of large mesh wire netting over the top of the chimney-pot; this plan is applicable where fire is used during the summer. Where a fire is not to be used for a time, the simplest plan is to stop up the chimney pot with an old mat or carpet

for a few days after arrival of the swallows, until they have commenced nest-building elsewhere.

TEACHING A HORSE TO STOP.

When I get a new horse, and that is not very often, I make it my first business to teach that horse to stop suddenly: when I first say whoa, by gently jerking up the lines, the horse soon begins to understand you. He should first be taught to stop while walking, then stopped on a gentle trot, and when, finally, driven rapidly. There isn't a horse in the world that cannot be taught in a day's time by a short, sharp whoa, without drawing on the lines. And they should learn to do this as quick as they can. Presently no matter how badly frightened the horse is, he will stop when he hears the word. Many horses become unmanageable when they get their tails over the lines, so if anything touches their heels, the word of the driver should be as potent as the stoutest lines.

Let me illustrate the value of my suggestions, by relating what I have saved in this way. Not long since, I purchased a spirited young horse, and the first lesson I gave him was to stop when I spoke to him. Soon after, I hitched him into the buggy, and got into it with all my family. I dare not say how many of us there were, lest some of your readers should envy me. Enough, that with what I had at my side, and on my lap, I could scarcely see the horse.

An unlucky whisk of the horse's tail brought the line under it, and quicker than I can tell you, the horse made two sudden bounds, and would have run away, but my timely "whoa" brought everything up standing; and I found the line as fast under the tail as though it were in a vice. The united strength of my whole family could hardly have pulled it out. After standing a moment it came out itself. Then the whole family breathed easier, and the reporters of the daily press lost a good item.

One day my horse and buggy were standing in front of my office, and a heedless expressman drove up with a top wagon, and fairly ran into my establishment. The fluttering of the expressman's curtains, and the rattling of his rickety wagon, frightened my horse so badly that he flew back, and tore the bits out of his mouth, broke his hitching strap, and started on a run. Looking out of the window, I saw with most indignant eyes the whole transaction, I sprang to the door and spoke a loud, sharp "whoa." And though I was some five or six rods from the horse, he stopped as though he had met a stone wall in his road. I breathed easier again, for I had saved fifty dollars, or seventy-five, the amount of the threatened smash-up.