The Farm. 38

Preserving Barnyard Manure.

The Dominion Experimental farm at Ottawa, Canada, tried keeping for a year two lots of fresh mixed horse manure and cow manure with the litter, one in a closed shed and the other in an open bin with watertight floors. They had four tons in each place and weighed and analyzed each lot once a month. The exposed manure lost one-third of its nitrogen and the other one fifth while more organic matter was destroyed in the exposed manure than in the other by about ten per cent. The exposed manure lost about one-sixth of its phosphoric acid, and a little more than one-third of its potash, while the protected heap lost partically nothing. The most of the changes due to fermentation took place in the first month, and there was no apparent benefit in rotting longer than three months (We should agree with that if the first three months were March rst to June 1st in this climate, or even from February 1st to May 1st, but would not a agree with it at other seasons of the

They also tried mixed three tons of equal parts horse and cow manure, using on one lot fifty pounds per ton, or one hundred and fifty pounds per lot of gyp sum or land plaster. The manure was put in July 15th fresh, made as compact as sible, and not stirred until November 15, a period of four months. Then they were again weighed and samples analyzed Each lot had water added occasionally. The organic matter was not as well decayed where the plaster was used, but the amount of nitrogen in each lot was partically the same. They therefore decided that the proper place to use gypsum is in the stable, where the greater waste of nitrogen, as ammonia, may occur, and that when manure is compact and kept moise but little ammonia escapes.

We do not propose to dispute either one of these statements, but will make one or two of our own, founded not on analysis, but on practical experience. The first is that fifty pounds of gypsum to a ton of manure placed in a pile of one or three tons or more would absord more of the escaping ammonia if placed evenly over the heap then if mixed with it. Next, that adding water occasionally would prevent decay and thereby thechance for escape of ammonia, -- Boston Cultivator.

* * * Farmers Keep no Account

Memory served most men well when it came to threshing bills, for the double fact of having so many bushels of this and so many bushels of that, and of having to pay for the work done, helped to keep the figures in mind, says Farm and Home.

Where hay and straw had been pressed the same rule followed; but when it came to the amount of small fruits or vegetables produced and output of eggs and poultry, the average producer was all at sea. "We had berries enough for our use," he would say, "and our garden kept us pretty well supplied with vegetables; but we don't raise any worth mentioning." "Have any berries to sell?" asked the enumerator. "Did we, Mary?" addressing his wife, then, depending upon her anwser, "I think be might have sold a few perhaps \$7 or \$8 worth but not enough to amount to any thing." "Suppose you had bought what you sold and consumed," presists the enumerator, "what then?" "Oh, that's another thing; we never take accounts of what we eat. I suppose if we bought then all they would have cost perhaps \$25." "I think you said you had a pretty good garden," pursues the enumeator calmly, "what was the worth to you?" "Oh, we don't sell anything out of you?" "Oh, we don't sell anything out of that, we used it all." "Yes, but did it ever strick you that things are worth as much to use as they are to sell? "No, never thought of it in that light before, but 1 a ness you're right; I shouldn't wonder if we got \$10 worth out of the garden last year-didn't we Mary?" Mary, hav-ing had most to do with the garden, an-

swers briefly: "More than that." "If you had had to buy it all," put in the stolid enumerator, "wouldn't it have cost you \$50?" "By George, I guess you're right; half a farmer's living come's from his garden, but we never think of it in that way, you know."-Sel.

Protection Against Hawks

Writing on the subject in The Poultry tem, Z. B. Littlejohn says: "Get a ball of white cotton cord, and throw about over the trees if you have any in the poultry yard. If you have no trees drive in a few stakes ten or twelve feet high or nail them to the fences, and tie the cord from one to the other. Have the cords thick enough so the hawks can plainly see them. You will find that hawks will not come near where these cords are put up, so they are very shy about anything that looks like a plot to catch them. I have tried this plan, and find it a sure preventive. I know it is not very ornamental to the poultry-yard, but I think it better than to have the hawks catch the fowls, as they do a considerable amount of damage to the poultry-keeper .- Sel.

The Antiquity of Agriculture.

The origin of agriculture is lost in the of antiquity. We know that in Neolithic times in Europe eight kinds of cereals were cultivated, besides flax, peas, poppies, apples, pears, bullace plums, etc., at the same time various animals were do mesticated. Among these were shorthorned oxen, horned sheep, goats, two breeds of pigs and dogs. Professor W. Boyd Dawkins says that evidence goes to show that these animals were not domesticated in Europe, but probably in the central plateau of Asia. He also thinks agriculture arose in the south and east of Europe, but spread gradually to of Europe, but spread gradually to the centre, north and west. A hunting population is often very averse to even the slight amount of work that agriculture required in a tropical country. The same holds good, as a rule, for pas oral communities. In all cases a powerful con-straint is necessary to force these people into uncongenial employment. Fate is stronger than will, and at various periods in different climes, hunters and herders have been forced to till the soil .- Professor M C. Hadden, in Knowledge.

Franco-Canadian line steamers have secured a subsidy of \$50,000 per year for five years from the Dominion government, Mr. Poinard, agent of the line, has left to attend a meeting of the directors in Paris. Four new steamers are to be acquired. Next year there will be a fortnightly service to Quebec and Montreal in summer and a monthly service in winter between St. John and Halifax and Havre.

St. John and Halifax and Havre.

The annual meeting of the Dominion Commercial Travellers' Association was sheld at Montreal on Saturday. Great interest was excited by the contest between T. L. Paton and James Croil for the presidency, which resulted in the election of Mr. Paton. Mr. J. S. N. Dougal was relected vice-president; R Booth, G Tasse, A. W. Ramsay, W. J. Egan and A. R. Colvin were elected directors.

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Winston Spencer Churchill, Englishman, member of parliament, war correspondent and lecturer, twenty-six years old, and Winston Churchill, American, author of "Richard Carvel," twenty-nine years old, had an interesting meeting at Boston on Monday.

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Boston on Monday.

The by-election in Welland, Ont., on Thursday to a seat in the Ontario Legislature made vacant as a result of the election of Wm. German to the Dominion House, resulted in the return of J. R. Gross, Liberal, by 325 majority over William McCleary, Conservative. This is the third election won by the Ross government since the Legislature closed.







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