

Utility vs. Fancy.

The test of practical utility has been applied to most breeds of cattle within the last few years—in Shorthorns, perhaps, more severely than any other—and without doubt the effect is beneficial to the breed to which this test is applied. The Scottish Farmer, in the following quotation, hits out hard at the Ayrshire breeders. From what we have seen of Canadian Ayrshires at the recent great exhibitions, we think there is no tendency among them to run to either extreme, but that all are breeding for a heavy flow of milk coupled with a robust condition. Still this shout from across the water will be read with interest:—

"An Ayrshire cow is either the best all-round dairy cow known in Great Britain, or she is nothing. Probably the Scottish Farmer has said this before, but it is one of the things he means to say pretty often, until he convinces the judges who officiate at cattle shows that an Ayrshire cow with a fancy vessel and neat teats, which won't fill the pail, is trash. Now, that is plain speaking, but it is necessary. The Ayrshire became an object of regard to a number of fancy judges; they bred cattle with udders about the size of that carried by an old ewe, and teats which no self-respecting dairymaid cared to handle, and they call these precious impostures good cattle. It was the action of these fancy judges which made it necessary for the party of gentlemen, to whom we have referred, to acknowledge that the Scottish dairy cattle had not shared in the general improvement which has characterized Scottish stock in the past twenty-five years. A tight vessel carried well forward, and well-set teats of a reasonable length, should be encouraged, but only in cattle which make a good milk record. Furthermore, they should be encouraged, but only in cattle with some space for containing lungs. In other words, the milking competition and the taste for good vessels should go hand in hand. It will not do to allow either of them to rule alone. If the milking competition were to be the only test of merit, we should soon have unsightly cows with their udders amongst their feet and their bellies on the ground; and were the fancy vessel and well-set teats the only test, there would be great danger of the extinction of the dairy reputation of the Ayrshire. We are glad to understand that amongst the younger generation of Ayrshire farmers these views are becoming more popular. They are not so enamored of winning the Ayr Derby with a cow with a fancy vessel and an infinitesimal milking record as some of the older men, and the milking competition will, without doubt, become a much more important item in the programme at dairy shows as the years roll on."

Too many farmers mistake good, fair treatment of live stock for pampering and coddling. They think that to let the stock run out around the straw stack, or lie in the shelter of a barbed-wire fence, will make an animal healthy, hardy and vigorous. Such men will even starve the mare that worked hard all summer and fall, and is now carrying a foal. When feed of all kinds is as low as it is at the present time, there can surely be no excuse for such wanton cruelty to dumb animals. A decent ration of grain and fodder will grow into good stock that sells for a fair price. A course of abuse will reduce the most highly improved breed to the lowest depths of scrubbiness in a short time.

See to it that good pathways are made between the house and the woodshed, from the house to the barnyard, and from one stable or shed to another. A little time, a little lumber and a few nails will accomplish this, and make the journey between the several places much shorter and pleasanter. These pathways need not be costly. Two feet of walk is ample. Making these will neither involve much loss of time nor cost, whilst the result will be comfort and cleanliness in the house and buildings.

GARDEN AND ORCHARD.

Protect Your Trees from Injurious Insects.

Fruit-growers are now compelled to recognize the fact that, in order to raise good, clean fruit, and to make fruit-growing profitable, they must protect their trees from the ravages of insects, that are every year becoming more numerous and destructive.

This can be done very easily if done intelligently and at the right time. Proper protection will increase the annual yield of our apple orchards fully 75 per cent.

If you want to destroy an insect enemy you must study its life history. You will find it has certain habits that make it comparatively easy of destruction. This is especially true of the Codling Moth (apple worm). Anyone at all familiar with its habits is aware that after the first brood of worms leave the apple, nature compels them to seek a hiding place on the trunk of the tree, where they will be removed from the moisture of the earth, and here they change from the worm to the moth. At the time the worm is seeking this hiding place it is easily led into a trap, if the trap furnishes the hiding place for which it is so anxiously seeking, and common sense teaches the fruit-grower that this is the time to destroy it, as it remains in this trap for two weeks, unable to move. The early brood of moths appear on the wing

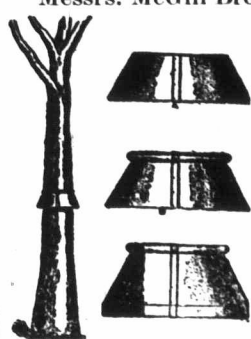
the large number that escape where hogs are kept in the orchard to eat the fallen fruit."

As a remedy, Prof. Saunders says:—"The most effective method yet devised is to trap the worms when going up the tree. This is best done by a band placed around the trunk."

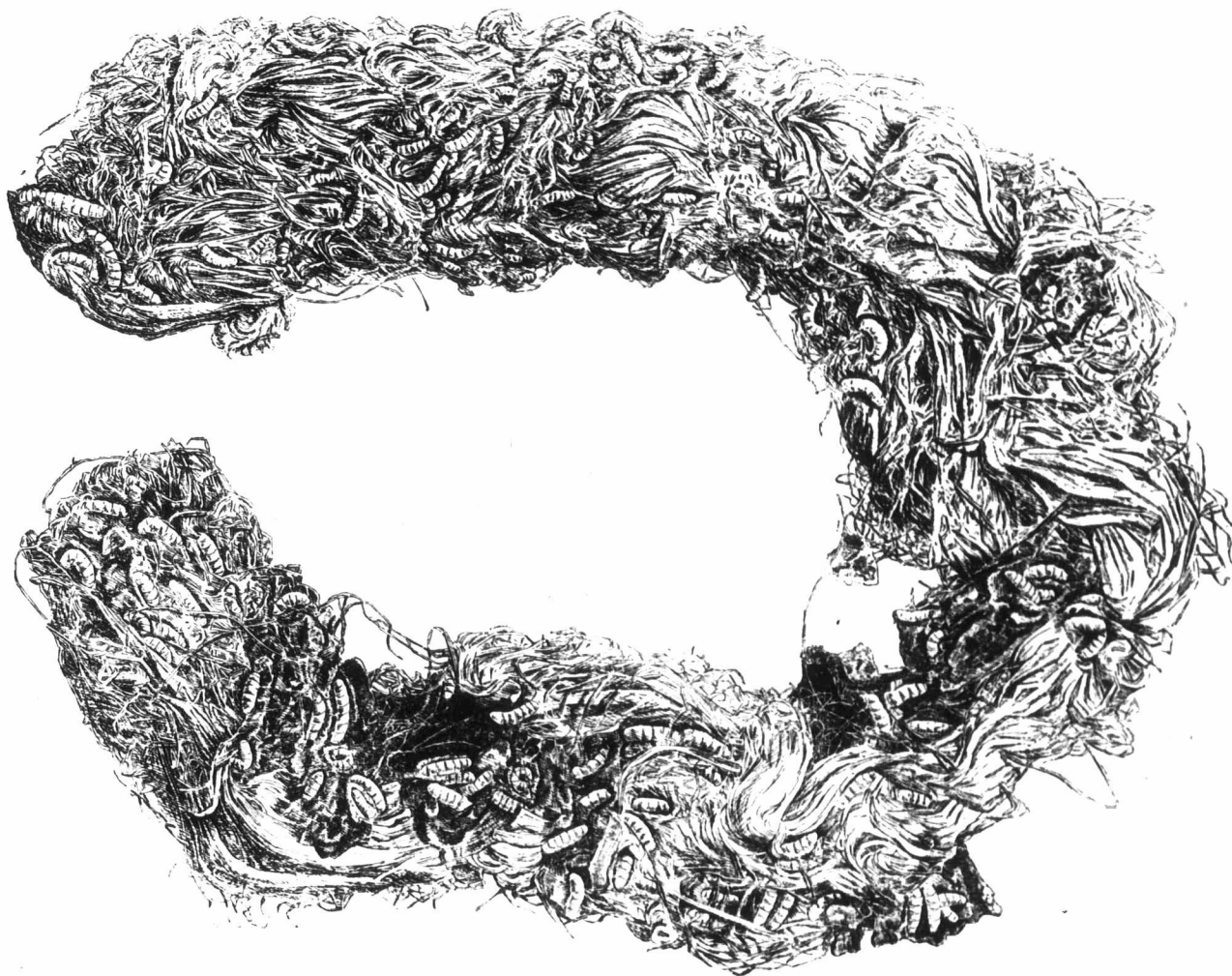
E. A. Ormerod, the eminent English entomologist, says:—"The best means to reduce the number of this moth is to trap the larva (worm) of the first brood on its way up the tree, by placing a suitable trap or band around the trunk."

Riley, Treat, Linn, and all other entomologists also recommend trapping the worm.

Messrs. McGill Bros, London, have patented and are manufacturing a very effective trap. Cut No. 1 shows this device in different sizes, also how it appears when fastened on the tree. Not only is this new device useful when employed to destroy the codling moth, but it protects trees against the ravages of numerous other insects which attack them. The inventors claim that it is useful in combating the Tussock moth, climbing cut worms, canker worm and cut caterpillar. Care should be taken when adjusting these protectors that the juncture with the tree be very close. The practice is to tie a piece of tow around the trunk and over this place the protector. This tow furnishes a suitable place for certain insects to pass from one stage to another. No. 2 shows a photograph of a tow band after being removed from a tree in the orchard of Mr. A. G. Deadman, Delaware, Ont. This is but a sample; many similar bands have been received. The protector was placed on the tree July 20th, 1883, and removed October 16th. The insects shown in the illustration are the larvae of the codling moth. The proprietors of this device have shown us a number of testimonials sent them by practical men.



NO. 1.



NO. 2. LARVA OF CODLING MOTH.

during the fore part of June, a little earlier or later, according to the season. Usually at the time it appears, the young apples are already set and are about the size of a hazel nut. The female deposits a single egg in the eye of the apple, flying from one to another until her stock of eggs, amounting to probably three hundred, is exhausted, when she falls to the ground and dies. In about a week the egg hatches out, and the young worm begins at once to bore into the apple, feeding as it goes, but making its headquarters near the core. In about three or four weeks the worm is full grown, and shortly before this the infested apple generally falls to the ground, and the worm makes its escape out of the fruit through a large hole in the side, which it has bored a few days before for this purpose, and makes at once for the trunk of a tree, up which it climbs and spins around itself a silken cocoon of a dirty white color in any convenient crevice it can find, the crotch of the tree being a favorite spot. Here it transforms into the pupa state, and toward the latter part of July, or the fore part of August, bursts forth a perfect moth, and at once begins to lay her eggs for the late and destructive brood, which causes the wormy, full-grown apples.

Prof. Saunders says that "when the apples do not fall the worm lowers itself to the ground by a silken thread which it spins at will, and starts up the trunk of the tree." Prof. Theo. Wood says:—"The fall of the apple and the escape of the worm usually takes place at night, which accounts for

prosperity and general advancement which had been made. He then referred to crimes which had been committed against farmers in the immediate vicinity, in the way of stealing grain and live stock, and said that the punishment imposed was entirely inadequate to the enormity of the crimes committed. He felt that the judges were not doing their duty to the farmers, and that a heavier sentence should be meted out to such offenders, in order to give greater protection to the farmer.

The chief officers elected for the coming year were: President, Mr. John Elliott; Vice-President, Mr. Joseph Wheaton; Secretary-Treasurer, Mr. A. Munro.

The President then introduced Mr. W. L. Brown, of the London Free Press, who read a very interesting and instructive paper on "Smut and Chess in Wheat." He proved, by means of statistics, the great loss to the country which is annually caused by the ravages of this fungus disease. He then showed the great success which had attended the use of copper sulphate as a remedy, and urged all farmers to take united action, for in this way only could the disease be entirely subdued.

In his address on chess, he proved the distinct character of the two plants, wheat and chess. On this point a spirited discussion arose, which showed that a considerable portion of the audience still held to the old idea that wheat could degenerate into chess.

East Middlesex Farmers' Institute.

A very successful meeting of the above institute was held in the Court House, London, on Saturday, the 25th of November.

President O'Brien, in his opening address, reviewed the work of the institute for the past year, and congratulated the members upon the