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# About the Farm.

#### The Old Barn.

Low, swallow-swept and gray; Between the orchard and the spring, And its wide windows overflowing hay. And crannied doors a-swing, The old barn stands to-day.

Deep in its hay the Leghorn hides A round, white nest. And, humming

On roof and rafter, or its log-rude sides, Black in the sun-shot loft, The building hornet glides.

Along its corn-crib, cautiously As thieving fingers, skulks the rat.
Or, in warped stalls of fragrant timothy,
Gnaws at some loosened slat,
Or passes shadowy.

A dream of drouth made audible Before its door, hot, smooth, and shrill, All day the locust sings. What other

· spell Shall hold it, lazier still, Than the long days, now tell?

Dusk and the cricket and the strain
Of tree toad and of frog; and stars
That burn above the rich West's ribbed

stain; And dropping pasture bars, And cow bells up the lane.

Night and the moon and katydid, And leaf-list of the wind-touched

And mazy shadows that the fireflies thrid; And sweet breath of the cows; And the lone owl here hid.

#### In the Dairy.

The best grade of oil is the cheapest kind to use in running the separator.

Air slaked lime is a fine thing to sprinkle over the floor of the cow barn.

Do not change the feed suddenly as anything that upsets the digestive capacity upsets the milk flow.

Ample ventilating is a fine thing in the cow barn. It wards off bad odors and disease.

An easy way to salt dairy cows regularly is with a chunk of rock salt in each manger or a salt box in the yard.

There never has been a time when good dairy cows have been as scarce or as valuable as at the present time.

When the cows are out during the cold, rainy nights in the fall, it means just so much knocked off the milk

Sunlight is very essential in keeping the cow barn clean and sweet. Put in some windows before cold weather

The first milk that is drawn from the teats usually contains more or less dirt and germs and little fat. Keep that out of the milk pail.

Do not let the milk get too cold be-fore separating. The sooner it can be separated after milking the more satis-factory will be the results.

Milk is not usually fit for human food until the ninth milking after calving. Neither should a cow be milked later than three weeks before calving.

Is the separator on a good firm foundation, or do you have to stop every little while to change its position? It cannot do good work unless it has a

It is uncertain and unsatisfactory to depend on the instinct to know when it is the right time to churn cream. Get a good dairy thermometer and you will not regret it.

Keep an eye on the herd before they go into winter quarters and if ther are any sickly animals, dispose of them. Especially look out for tuberculosis for it spreads rapidly when the herd is confined.

There are various preservatives such as salicylic acid, boracic acid and formaldehyde that will preserve milk indefinitely if used in large quantities. but which are poisonous and very dangerous to health. We trust that none of our readers are using such preservatives as it is a violation of law, both statutory and morally. The only right way to preserve milk and cream

is to use clean methods and plenty of ice or cold water.

From the present shortage of storage butter we must expect high prices for dairy products next winter. See that you give your cows good care and good feed and you need not worry about the profits, provided you have the right kind of cows.

### Poultry.

Ducks do not require water to swim in, but they need plenty to drink. It must be before them when they are eating for they first require a mouthful of food and then sufficient water to wash it down.

Fatten and kill the surplus cockerels this month. From now forward the price will decrease and there is more profit in selling this stock now than in keeping it longer at the present high price of grain.

The turkeys, which have been getting free living about the farm, principally by foraging, should now receive one good feed a day of whole grains; for example, oats, wheat or corn, or all three, fed mixed or alternately.

Geese will find most of their living about the farm if allowed to range. They eat grass, roots, bugs and worms, beside such grain as they find about the barns. They are, therefore, inexpensive fowls to keep.

Now is the time to use lice killers vigorously. Don't allow the fowls or chicks to go into winter quarters infested with these pests, which not only torture the birds but prevent them from being as profitable as they would be otherwise.

It is the practice of some poultrymen to close the coops and poultry houses quite tight as soon as the first cool nights arrive. This prevents the fowls from getting the required amount of fresh air, weakens them and makes them susceptible to colds and catarrh. Make sure there are no drafts in the coops and houses, then leave the windows open. The oxygen of fresh air will do the fowls dollars' worth of good.

# The Irish Potato.

The Irish potato is one of the most profitable crops that can be grown on a northern farm. The percentages of starch, the material for which comes from the air, makes the potato crop comparatively light on the soil. The tops, which contain a large part of the fertilizer elements, rot on the ground and so render back to the soil the fertility collected in them.

# Get Beady for Winter.

The time to prepare for cold weather is before cold weather comes. Every poultryman should thoroughly clean his poultry houses and whitewash them before the first of November. All dirt should be removed from the floors and the walls should be swept free from dust and cobwebs. Two inches or more of fresh, clean sand should be placed on the floor and the interior of the building should be thoroughly whitewashed. If the house is a small one, a broom or an old whitewash brush is sufficient for the work, but if the house is a large one, or if there are many houses, a sprayer furnishes the best method of applying the wash. To every four gallons of whitewash there should be added an ounce of carbolic acid. This will give the wash greater purifying properties and assist to exterminate vermin.

Although modern ideas of poultry keeping calls for very thorough ventilation of the poultry house, that does not mean that the house must not be tightly built at all points where it is not intended to admit the air. A house full of cracks which admit the air in such a manner as to cause drafts, although well ventilated, is by no means healthful. With the many brands of prepared roofing and siding now on the market, there is no excuse for not having tight houses, for such may be built without much expense. Old buildings, too, may be made waterproof by the

ing tight houses, for such may be built without much expense. Old buildings, too, may be made waterproof by the use of these wind and waterproof fabrics at comparatively light expense. Broken lights in windows should be replaced, doors which sag should be trued up and broken hinges made to give place to new ones.

give place to new ones.

All these things should be done during October so that when the cold weather and possible snows of the following month arrive the poultryman's fowls will be well protected and able to produce eggs when the price is high.

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