

lands, Alderney, Jersey and Guernsey are now the homes of these celebrated cattle, and they are known now under three distinct names, viz: Alderney, Jersey, and Guernsey. The latter are the larger cattle and not considered equal as cream producers to the Alderneys, neither are they so fine. Some claim that there is a difference between the Jerseys and Alderneys, but we imagine there is a distinction here without a difference.

The Alderney cow has a dark nose, generally black, with a rim around the eye of the same color, a large full eye. The head is a good deal like that of the elk, is blood-like in appearance, the skin being thin, the hair soft and fine, and the bones of the head finely chiseled. In other words, the appearance of the head, and expression of the countenance is deer-like, not like any other breed of domestic cattle. The horns are small and tipped with black, the neck depressed but fine, the bosom tolerably deep but not wide, consequently the fore-quarters are pretty close together. The loins are not wide, the thighs are thin, the legs tapering and fine. The udder is of medium size, and covered with skin and hair of exceeding fineness, and soft to the touch. One of the leading traits of the Alderney is timidity. Like the deer, they are ever watchful for their safety, and if allowed to grow up without due domestication, are very shy, easily frightened, and if handled roughly by strangers, take on the appearance of an untamed deer or elk. But when accustomed to daily handling they are more domestic than the common cow, and become pets with the children and servants. For the yoke or for beef they are not valuable. Those inclined to invest in them may as well do so for the cream, and the cream only. In the Eastern States they are becoming quite common, and sell at various prices, the fancy markings having much to do with the prices. Pale white and red is perhaps the most common color of the Alderney, yet some are what is called "self colored," which means, when applied to an Alderney, all of one color. In the island of Jersey those all pale red are fancied and command the highest prices. Squirrel grey is not an uncommon color with them, and when this prevails over most of the body it constitutes a fancy color. On their native islands they sell at \$125 to \$250, according to the merits possessed by the family from which they have originated, and the markings. They are known only as the Jerseys, and when they reach England or the United States, they are generally called Alderneys. Dark brown, nearly black, prevails on some animals, varying in extent, combined with white, and many prefer the dark color to pale red as a matter of fancy. But as the most valuable trait of the breed is richness of milk and cream, all other considerations are secondary, and no points, either in color or form, be they ever so fanciful, will compensate for the highest excellence as cream givers.—*Iowa Homestead.*

LONG WOOL SHEEP.

H. L. Rudd, of Peoria, Linn county, writes us as follows, under date of June 15th, 1872: "I see by the last *Farmer* that you want to hear from some man owning long wool sheep. My sheep are pure-blood Cotswold, imported by myself from Canada. They were two years old last April. One of my bucks sheared seventeen pounds, and one fifteen pounds; the ewe eleven pounds. The ewe has raised two fine large lambs, and they have had nothing but ordinary keeping. The wool is clean and free from dirt. The gross weight of the bucks is, one, 319 pounds, the other 302½ pounds. If any one has larger sheep, I should like to hear from him."

During the past year the leading cheese factory, in Hillsdale county, Ind., has manufactured \$17,335.39 worth of cheese. The average profits over all expenses is \$36.30 per cow.

The Houston (Texas) Union says that more cattle have perished in that State this winter by cold and starvation, than in any former equal duration of cold weather.

The Marengo Apple.

It behooves us to notice any new seed, implement or plant that appears likely to be of advantage to us. There are many things brought under our notice that we deem it prudent not to mention, as there are so many humbugs; sometimes we may have been caught ourselves, and most probably may be again.

The accounts we see published about this apple are such as we think deserving of notice. We see a very large number of high testimonials regarding its value, signed by the leading nurserymen in the States. These gentlemen have a high reputation at stake and would not give their names to such commendations unless they had fully been convinced of the correctness of the assertions.

Novelties are scarce at first, and, consequently, they must be dear and can only be purchased in small quantities by the wealthy and enterprising. We would by all means caution any one against planting an orchard of this new fruit at the present price, and persons of limited means should wait a few years until larger stocks can be raised. It might be well to have a tree or

two in different parts of the country ready to raise grafts from, to raise the fruit when desired.

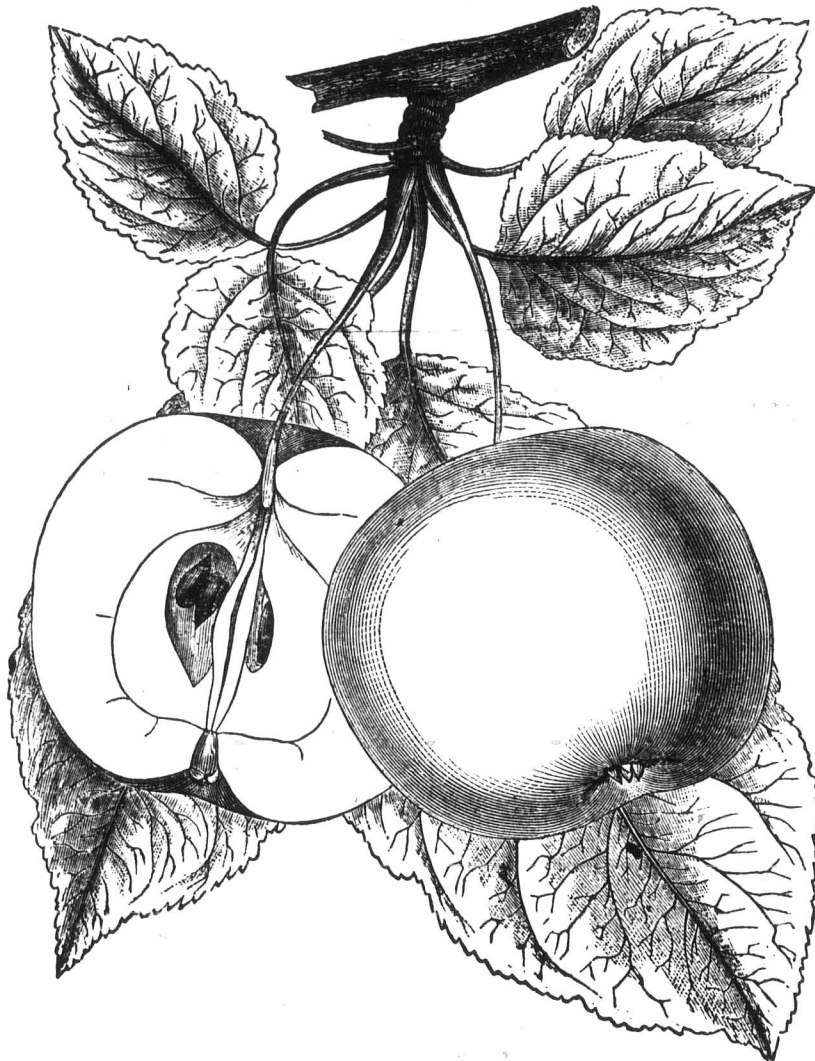
In the southern parts of Canada it may not be of so much consequence as in the northern parts, as the hardiness of this variety must be an important consideration.

This variety is as yet procurable in Canada only from Messrs. Pontey & Taylor, of the St. James' Park Nurseries, near this city. We extract the following from their catalogue:

"We have made arrangements with the holders of the original stock of the above really valuable addition to the list of apples, and are enabled to offer it for the first time in Canada. A long list of testimonials, embracing many of the leading nurserymen and Pomologists in the United States, establishes the reputation of the Marengo Apples beyond a doubt, from which we give two or three.

"Standing well on the bleak prairies of Minnesota, within eighteen miles of St. Paul, it recommends itself for those sections of Canada where other varieties of apples are with difficulty grown.

"The remarkable productiveness of this species, amounting almost to a fault, together with the fact that the trees bear young



and annually, would indicate a near alliance to the crab, while its rich and delicate flavor has won for it the reputation of being a splendid dessert apple.

"The points that are claimed for it, and which we think are fully established by the views of practical men and leading Horticulturists, are:—

"1st.—That these Siberian Apples are an entire novelty in fruit culture.

"2nd.—They possess qualities of excellence not belonging to the common species, and are valuable for a great variety of uses.

"3rd.—They are specially demanded in the best fruit districts to fill a want now but imperfectly supplied, viz.: a small, rich, handsome and reliable apple for the table and fancy market.

"4th.—For northern sections they are indispensable on account of the superior hardiness of the species."

These gentlemen are now among the leading nurserymen of Canada. We called at their grafting establishment the other day and were surprised to find seventeen employees in that building. They were just finishing their grafting, which many of our readers may not be aware, is

a winter occupation; the stems and roots are attached by waxed paper being wrapped round the joints. The plants are packed away, labelled and numbered, in large boxes ready for planting in the spring. They have now ready for planting 100,000 grafts, and their cutting scions and stocks will make this spring 200,000 more.

Mr. Alexander Pontey has the whole control of the grounds and plants. He has worked himself up to this position from a very humble commencement. He served his seven years apprenticeship to the business in England, went two years to the world-renowned Kew Gardens, the greatest botanical gardens in England. He emigrated to this country, employing himself at the principal gardens, nurseries and horticultural establishments in the States. He acted as Mr. Leslie's foreman and salesman for a series of years. When in Mr. Leslie's parlor one evening in company with the writer and Mr. Leslie, we gave him verbal encouragement to commence business in this vicinity. He con-

cluded to come, and has never regretted the step.

His partner, Mr. John Taylor's part of the business is to employ and look after their outside salesmen and attend to the delivery of trees. With the combined experience and ability of these two gentlemen, they are enabled to do an immense amount of business. They make shipments of trees of many car-loads in the spring and fall from this vicinity. Their grounds are in excellent order, their stock of young fruit trees is uncommonly healthy and vigorous; in fact, we never have seen a finer growth of young trees at any place. Their office, and some of their grounds are only ten minutes' walk from the G.W.R.R. station. If you are contemplating planting this spring call and examine for yourselves; if you are at too great a distance, send for their catalogue. You will see their advertisement in the paper.

Talks with Farmers and Gardeners.

We are always happy to see our subscribers at our office, and have a chat with them, and as many valuable hints are let free during the conversation, we will, from time to time, give you jottings from what is said.

One day last week, one of our friends, from near Exeter, was in.

"How is your stock?"

"I sold a lot of stock in the fall. One farmer bought five head, and I notice that he has since been obliged to buy hay and straw. It think it will trouble him to sell them this spring for cost. It is my impression that there will be a scarcity of grass fed beef this spring."

"Have you read the Prize Essays on the Turnip Question?"

"Yes, and I think it was a capital idea to offer prizes for practical essays on this subject."

"We knew you to be one of the believers in turnips, that is why we asked you."

"Yes, indeed, I do believe in turnips, and in fact, in all root crops. We Canadian farmers will have to pay more attention to this subject. When I was in here last time, you asked me what weight of green fodder we could raise to the acre, but I could not tell you. When I went home I measured off a quarter of a rod of Western Corn, which I was cutting green for fodder. I weighed what came off this fourth of a rod and got ninety-five pounds, that is about thirty tons to the acre. I think that is a pretty heavy yield."

"Yes, that is very good. Now, we were reading, a few days since, in an English farmers' paper, an article from a farmer, who said that cows do not improve the farm, and that a dairy farm will in time run out. He maintains that it is the fat cattle that enrich the ground, and the sheep."

"Well, I think he is right in a measure. There is no doubt but that the droppings of fat cattle are richer than those of milch cows, and I, myself, believe in sheep for enriching a farm. I will tell you something curious, which I have noticed in my grain crops; when my grain comes up delicate and yellow, I am sure of a good crop of straw and generally good grain. This may be attributed to the depth of the seed in the ground, but I am not sure. What is the general opinion about manure; is it better of being put out in the fall or spring?"

"Well, now, that is a question which we were ourselves examining. There is a great variety of opinion. You will see by our remarks on the Turnip Question, in the March number, what we think about it."

What do you think of the Winningstadt Cabbage, Mr. Gamage?

Well, it is a splendid head—very large, but I don't think the quality so fine as other. However, it is a good kind to raise. Now, last year I sowed *Canon Ball* on one side, *Jersey Wakefield* on the other, and *Winningstadt* in the middle. Well, the flies cut off the *Canon Ball* and *Jerseys* entirely, and left the *Winningstadt* untouched, and that is just how I find with the slugs,—they will eat all the other cabbages first.

Are you in favor of rotation of crops in gardening?

Well, not in all cases. I find that onions and tomatoes come forward a great deal earlier when sown year after year on the same ground. This has been my experience, and I am now over sixty years old, and have been all my life gardening.

Mr. L. G. Carling who last year, a acre from rather weak well, and w year deliver how he cam His reply w mine at a c it that I. His land is his fingers badly. I must chang ed with n from you; the fall. without th supply a cl graceful fo your ideas



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