

## The Farm

### Where They Originated.

Among the more important plants that were under cultivation at the dawn of history, or more than four thousand years ago, says an exchange, are:

Apples—Still found wild over extensive regions of the north temperate zone. First cultivated in south-eastern Europe or western Asia.

Barley—Among the most ancient of cultivated plants. The common or four-rowed barley, as also the six-rowed kind, probably originated from the two-rowed, which appears to have been the kind earliest cultivated. It is a native of western Asia.

Cabbage—Still found wild in many parts of Europe, where it has been cultivated from the earliest times.

Cucumber—The original wild species from which the cultivated vine came is supposed to be found still at the foot of the Himalayas and in other parts of northern India.

Onion—First cultivated in south-western Asia, where the originals of the cultivated species are still to be found. Held sacred and worshipped in Egypt in very early times.

Peach—De Candolle has no hesitancy in assigning the origin of the fruit to China, though other eminent botanists believe it to have been cultivated in Persia and elsewhere at an equally early date.

Pear—First cultivated in the temperate portions of Europe and Asia, where it still flourishes in the wild state.

Rice—First cultivated in southern China or India. Not native in Egypt, though it has, through the greater part of historic time, been extensively cultivated there.

Tea—Chinese records are quoted to prove that tea was cultivated in that country at least 2,700 years before Christ, and it is generally conceded that its use originated in that region.

Turnips—The several species all appear to have originated in Europe, but to have early spread under cultivation into Siberia and other parts of Asia. They are still found in their original wild state in many parts of northern Europe.

Watermelons—formerly supposed to have been natives of southern Italy, but later investigations have traced their origin to Africa. They are certainly indigenous to the "dark continent," and are still found wild in the tropical regions on both sides of the equator.

Wheat—The extreme antiquity and wild area of the cultivation of wheat have rendered it difficult to ascertain just where it actually originated. It was well known in the earliest times of which any records are to be found all through the temperate regions of Asia, Europe and Africa, from China to the Canary Islands. It has been discovered in the bricks of the pyramids of Dashur, Egypt, to which is given a date more than 3,350 B. C. The latest researches assign its origin to the region of the Euphrates, where it still exists wild, if anywhere.

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### Milk Preservatives in England.

A decision of the Enfield Magistrates seems to have been strangely ignored by the press, and its importance has certainly not been appreciated as it deserved to be. The matter is well worth the attention of all milk producers, as well as milk dealers. First, to deal with the facts. It appears that an Enfield milk dealer was summoned under the Food and Drugs Adulteration Act for selling milk as an article of food when it contained a mixture of boracic acid and water, which, it was alleged, was injurious to health. The local analyst certified that the milk in question contained in each pint some thirty grains of boracic acid and 10 per cent of added water.

Of late it has become the fashion to use preservatives in the milk trade, and probably those which are most popular are

preparations of boracic acid. It is difficult to understand why this should be so, for as long as milk is good it will keep in vessels which are perfectly clean and sweet for at least twenty-four hours, and if it can be made to keep longer—which ought not to be required—it is at the expense of adding some drug which may do more harm than good. In this case the magistrates' evidently took this view, for they inflicted a penalty of £1 and costs—which amounted to £1.10s. 6d.

When we came to look into the evidence which was given before the Enfield Bench, the point which is most striking is that a medical authority stated that the amount of boracic acid which can with safety be given to a child in twenty-four hours is ten grains. A larger quantity, it is stated, would be injurious to health. The analyst in this case showed that there were thirty grains per pint. This means that if a child took a pint a day—which is probably much less than the average child will take—it would have to imbibe three times as much of the drug as is safe for health. This, of course, is a serious matter. It seems that, however much the dealer may have believed that he was improving his milk and assisting his customers, he was giving them a mixture which would in all probability prove injurious to those who consumed it.

From the legal point of view, the decision was undoubtedly correct. The so-called milk was not milk; it was milk plus water and boracic acid. The purchaser asked for milk, and doubtless believed that it was milk he received.

It is a dangerous thing to use preservatives at all, and it can never be safe so to do unless it can be shown that what is used is not in any way injurious to health. Under ordinary circumstances it ought not to be necessary to use drugs in this way, and as long as the farmer produces the genuine article, and delivers it in a cleanly and undiluted manner he has nothing to fear. When he cannot, he had better let that branch of his calling alone.—Mark Lane Express.

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### A FLAT CONTRADICTION.

The Oft-Repeated Statements by Physicians that Chronic Rheumatism Cannot be Cured Refuted by Sworn Statements.

There never was a time when people were so sceptical in reference to medicine as the present; 'tis no wonder, for their credulity has been played upon by the unreliable claims of advertised cure-alls until doubt is converted into a belief that all announcements are imaginary pen pictures. Rheumatic sufferers are of the class whose intense suffering has led them to try first one thing, then another, until repeated failures convince them "there is no help for them." They hear about the startling cures made by Kootenay, but cannot overcome the suspicion that 'tis life at the rest. They do not know of the hidden power in "The new ingredient" peculiar to this preparation, that banishes Rheumatism—of how it enabled George Ball, blacksmith, residing corner Sanford Avenue and Huron Streets, Hamilton, to arise from a helpless condition and take up work in the City Quarries at hard labor, discharged from the hospital with the assurance "they could do nothing for him, his system was so full of rheumatism no power on earth could drive it out;" then lying at his home for weeks unable to lift hand to mouth, having to be fed by his wife, when the King's Daughters of Hamilton brought him Kootenay. Three bottles effected a complete cure. This is not more strange than the story told by Mrs. Guy, wife of Mail Carrier Robt. Guy, Brant Ave., Hamilton, whose mother love breathes thanks for the restoration of their seven year old Willie. His lower limbs were so swollen with inflammatory rheumatism he could not put his feet to the floor, the slightest touch causing intense pain, growing gradually worse, until his condition was pitiful; it seemed they were going to lose him, when Kootenay was used and three bottles completely cured him, so that he is going to school. The detailed sworn statements of above cures, with hundreds of others, can be obtained by addressing The Ryckman Medicine Co., Hamilton, Ont. If Kootenay is not obtainable of your dealer, send charges prepaid on receipt of price, \$1.50 per bottle. Send for Chart Book, mailed free.

One bottle lasts over a month.

### To Make The Farm Pay.

One of the greatest hindrances to profitable farming is a desire to go too fast at first and to purchase things we could get along without.

The obliging agents tell you that you need not trouble about the money; your note will do just as well; but you will find that you must pay big interest for the privilege of going in debt, and you are always at a disadvantage to your creditor.

Have the money ready to pay and you can then make your half of the bargain. Take good care of your farm and your stock, and they will furnish the money for necessary outlays.

I will just say to young men who expect to make farming their occupation that they may expect hard work and plenty of it, and will not need to join any baseball nine for exercise; but if they take care of their health and habits it will not hurt them, for I have tried it for over sixty years

and am to-day a well preserved man. I can truly say that with the blessing of our Heavenly Father upon the labors of myself and family I have made farming pay, and what I have done others can do.—John Laramor before the Bloomingburg (Ohio) Institute.

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### Winter Evenings.

Young man, do not waste your winter evenings. They are too valuable. In the larger towns and cities, dissipation of every kind tempt many to squander the only opportunity they can ever have for such reading and study as would lay the foundation for subsequent success. The boy in the country is often the best situated. Some of the most useful men from the time of King Alfred until now have appreciated the value of the evening hours. Even where large opportunities are impossible, the young man who knows how to use his spare time and his winter evenings will soon secure an equivalent for a college education.—Lutheran Observer.

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