

Success Without a Mortgage.

SECOND PRIZE ESSAY—\$15.

Ten years ago, when a young man of twenty-five, I bought a farm of 150



A HUSTLING YANKEE.

a team and three good cows, 10 fine large sheep and what machinery it takes to run a farm, I had only \$300 to pay on my place. The hay was so poor I plowed all I could the first year and planted a lot of corn. I raised 500 bu corn. The hay was poor, so I took 20 horses to winter at \$20 a head. I fed them hay once a day and all the straw and corn fodder they cared to eat. They came out hog fat. My best hay was drawn out in the woods and traded for shingles and cedar posts. In the spring, found I had made \$400 on the place. My wife raised 40 turkeys, these we sent to Boston and they brought \$50, and 100 chickens brought \$50.

The second year, in March, I set out 30 bu potatoes on crates. These I put on racks in the hen house. In very cold weather I had to keep a fire. I had to sprinkle these every day. As soon as the ground was dry I set these out. My ground was well enriched with plenty of fertilizer. I took good care of these and July 1 had large, ripe potatoes. The first brought \$1.25 per bu, then down to \$1. I cleared \$100 after paying for everything and buying groceries to last all summer. I raised lots of pigs and sold them. One hog brought \$30 for her pigs in one year.

I set out a nice strawberry bed, a lot of red raspberries and there were all kinds of fruit on the farm. Every spare minute I was cutting brush and trimming trees. I plowed under the weeds for 2 yrs and this killed them and when they rotted helped to enrich the soil. After the second plowing I seeded it all down. The second winter I took the horses again and made \$400. The next summer I built woven wire fences on most of the place. Hay was high that year and I had 30 tons to sell. My hay, grain and stock I traded for hay brought me in \$500.

I raise all kinds of grain. I have about 50 bu wheat; 5 bu will buy a barrel of flour. Wheat is the best feed for hens to make them lay in winter. I keep 100 hens and these lay all winter. I sprouted potatoes every year, for this came when there was not much work to do and they always brought cash when there was kind of a dull time. I had a dairy of 15 good cows. Bought a separator and printed my butter in round bricks. These were rolled in tissue paper. I had customers for all I had at 25c p lb. This made a nice profit.

I bought young calves of neighbors who were going to kill them. I fattened them on milk and linseed meal and in six weeks they would bring \$7 or \$8. I always had some stock to sell. These are always kept in fine shape and bring a good price. I send my team to work when I can get a chance to earn money and by doing this I am never out of funds. By hard work I have saved \$2000, built good fences, shingled three barns and large house, built ice-house, the weeds are nearly gone, have a flock of 50 sheep, 10 hogs and 4 horses. This may seem easy to some, but I did not loaf around and preach hard times. I am out of debt and don't intend to ever get into debt. All this I have done in 10 yrs.—C. F., Addison Co., Vt.

The largest shipment of farm machinery ever made from this country left Philadelphia last month for Russia. Over 300 freight cars of machines were packed in the steamer Crews, valued at \$1,200,000.

Our Friend the Hog.

BACON PRODUCTION IN CANADA.

The ideal hog of the American packer is very different from that of the Canadian packer. American packers supply a market which is quite different in its requirements from that supplied by Canadian packers. In the English market, therefore, Canadian bacon of the best quality does not come into direct competition with the bulk of American bacon, but has to try conclusions with the bacon of Ireland and Denmark.

Canada's export staple in pork products is what is known as "Wiltshire sides," and London is the home of this trade. The market is limited and extremely fastidious. The light sides which may be very desirable in some sections, or the heavy, fat bacon which is required in other parts of the country, cannot be sold in London at any price. It must be just right, or London will have none of it. It therefore taxes the skill of the Canadian packer and feeder to retain the foothold already won in the English market, and their only hope rests in keeping competitors out by the superior quality of Canadian products.

Unfortunately, Canadian bacon is not always first class in quality. A considerable number of farmers still persist in producing the wrong type of hog, though there has been considerable improvement in this respect of late years. But there is another and a more serious problem to face. The peculiar method of curing bacon for our English trade appears to have a tendency to develop softness of the fat, unless the hogs have been carefully fed. We have not as yet got to the bottom of this matter, though we know that some foods are more conducive to producing firm bacon than are others. Owing to its cheapness, a great deal of corn has been fed to hogs of late years, and this food is claimed by our packers to be largely responsible for producing soft bacon. Experiments conducted both in Denmark and at the agricultural college at Guelph go to show that there is considerable truth in this contention, though it has also been shown that there are other things that will produce softness.

So far as our knowledge goes, it seems important that the growing pig should have plenty of exercise until it reaches at least 100 lbs w. If it has been properly fed and managed up to this time, there seems to be little danger of producing softness even by feeding corn. The less exercise available the greater the care necessary to provide muscle-forming foods. Of the foods which have been more thoroughly tested, skim milk, whey (fed in moderation), barley, peas and wheat middlings seem to be the safest so far as quality is concerned. In our recent experiments, barley has been fed exclusively to hogs from the time they were 3 mos old until ready for market and produced bacon of excellent firmness. A mixture of three parts ground peas to one part wheat middlings by weight, fed as above described, gave equally good results. Exclusive corn feeding, however, for the same period gave bacon of very soft and undesirable quality.

In other experiments we have fed corn to hogs that had plenty of exercise and a light meal ration up to the time they had reached about 100 lbs w, and to hogs which had very limited exercise but had received a mixed grain ration with skim milk until they reached about 100 lbs w, and no evil results were noticeable. From 2 to 3 lbs of whey to 1 lb meal also seemed to have a tendency to prevent softness.

Many of our farmers have been rearing hogs on clover during the finishing period and this practice has also been blamed for producing soft bacon. Results of tests have not been conclusive upon this point, but it would seem as though a fair allowance of mixed meal while on pasture has a tendency to correct any injurious effects of the clover.

For winter feeding, roots are becoming very popular, especially mangels. They are fed both raw and cooked, but we have no reliable data as yet regarding their influence upon the quality of bacon.

Practice varies greatly, but we may sum up approved methods about as follows: For young pigs after weaning, skim milk and middlings, often mixed

with a little bran or finely ground oats, form the staple. A few roots are introduced into the food at an early date to accustom the pigs to eating them, and the quantity is gradually increased until by the time the pigs are between 3 and 4 mos old they are getting rather more roots than meal. By the time the pigs are 3 mos old, barley may be added to the ration, and for the finishing period of 6 or 8 weeks a mixture of peas, barley and middlings is excellent. If the skim milk can be continued, all the better for both gains and quality. The description just given applies more particularly to winter feeding. Spring litters commonly go from roots to a clover pasture and do best when supplied with about a half ration of meal. It is regarded safer as regards quality if the hogs are given about six weeks of exclusive meal feeding at the close.

Some of our good feeders have adopted the plan of feeding meal dry or mixed with pulped roots, especially during winter. So far as we have tested it the results seem favorable, and it seems reasonable to suppose that when food

is moistened the hog is often forced to take more water into his stomach than is good for him. We have had less trouble with "pot bellies" when meal and water were given separately.

The above constitutes a somewhat rough summary of some of our commonest methods and difficulties in hog feeding. As stated before, the practices of Canadian farmers are anything but uniform and we have still very much to learn. It can easily be seen that cheap gains do not constitute the sole end in view, for the very existence of our export trade depends upon the quality of our product, and the problem of improving the quality of our bacon is attracting the greatest attention at the present time. The proper type of hog and the right kind of food are both necessary to produce the kind of bacon which our English trade demands.—[Prof G. E. Day, Ont Agri College.]

An Automobile Plow is said to have been invented by a Dr R. J. Gatling that can be operated by one man and will do the work of 3 men and 12 horses.

AN APPEAL TO HUMANITY

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Read carefully what Mr. L. R. Smith, of El Dorado Springs, Mo., writes us under date of Nov. 27, 1899, also Martin Bowers, of Carleton, Ohio, under date of Dec. 14th, 1899:

I do not know how to express how wonderful I think your "5 DROPS" medicine is. I was suffering intensely with NEURALGIA and thought for a month that I would have to die. One day a lady called to see me and brought me an advertisement of your "5 DROPS." I resolved to try it for a sample bottle. Have been taking it for three weeks and have not had an attack of suffering since I took the first dose. I believe it has saved my life. This statement is positively true. I shall also take pleasure in recommending your "5 DROPS" for the cure of NEURALGIA.

El Dorado Springs, Mo., Nov. 27, 1899.
Your "5 DROPS" came to hand on the 11th of last month and was glad to receive it for I was suffering at the time with neuralgia. The first dose helped me out of my pain on short notice. Bless the name of God for it. It will do you say it will, and more so. I had severe pains all over my body, when night came I could not sleep. The worst pain was in my left leg. I could not put my foot to the floor without suffering great pain. Have used four different kinds of medicine for RHEUMATISM and got no relief until I got your "5 DROPS," which gave me immediate relief as above stated. MARTIN BOWERS, Box 51, Carleton, Ohio, Dec. 14, 1899.
30 DAYS to enable sufferers to give "5 DROPS" at least a trial, we will send a sample bottle, per paid by mail for \$2.50. A sample bottle will convince you. Also, large bottles (250 doses) \$10.00 bottles for \$1. Sold by all druggists. AGENTS WANTED in New Territory. Don't wait! Write now! SWANSON RHEUMATIC CURE CO., 100 to 104 Lake St., CHICAGO, ILL.

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