

which acted in a very hostile manner, I thought, toward one who was trying to work for their own good; but I got them out, just the same, even if the folks did hardly recognize me for the next few days.

The bees went to work with all their little "might," bringing in pollen, and by May 1, both swarmed, the two large swarms going together, making about three pecks of bees. Then I was in a pretty mess. I had ordered some new hives to put the swarms into, but they had swarmed long before I expected it, and the hives had not yet come. Then, what an idea for them to go together in that way! I had never heard of such a thing.

I nailed together two box-hives, put them on a table which I put under the limb on which the bees clustered; then I shook the bees off the limb in front of the hives, and with a wing I guided about half the bees into each hive, in hopes that there was a queen in each hive, for I wanted to increase my number of colonies, and I thought that it would be a great detriment to have them go together in that way; but it did no good, for although I had them divided quite equally, it was but a short time before they were all in one hive again. I think that was the largest swarm I have ever seen, and they made good use of the time, for in a few days they had the hive full of comb, and swarmed, and they and the old ones kept on swarming, so that in the fall I had three colonies in box-hives, and seven in Simplicity hives. I had increased the two colonies to ten, and had taken some comb honey.

During this time I made pretty good use of bee-books, and decided to rear some queens the next summer, if my bees should again winter nicely in the cellar. They were in good condition when I put them in, and in the spring I took out all the ten colonies with (as it seemed to me) very little less honey than they had in the fall.

I bought another colony in a box-hive, and one in a Simplicity hive which had a very nice Italian queen, so that in the spring of 1887 I began with twelve colonies, and put thirty-eight colonies into the cellar in the fall, besides about half a dozen that absconded, and one which I sold. I thought that was pretty good for two years, and although I did not get much honey, I had increased my apiary, which I cared more for than honey, and had also given most of my colonies young queens that I reared myself, and brought them up from blacks to hybrids.

I now thought that I had better begin to work for honey, and not quite so much for increase, for although I take the American Bee Journal, and, as a general thing, read every word in it, together with other bee literature, I began to fear that my colonies would increase faster in number if I should let them go on, than I would increase my knowledge of bee-keeping.—[E. C. Erkel, in the American Bee Journal.]

MR. WELD, FARMER'S ADVOCATE.—Your favor to hand. The writer was the editor of the Southern Planter at Richmond, Va., and also Southern Industries at Nashville, Tenn., and a constant reader of the FARMER'S ADVOCATE, hence his appreciation of it and the necessity for it now in editing the agricultural department of the Age Herald. I regard the FARMER'S ADVOCATE as one of the very best agricultural journals published. If you give me club rates I will see what we can do in extending your circulation in the States. I would gladly see it in every household in the South. Rolfe S. Saunders, Birmingham, Ala., June 8, 1889.

One method of breaking up setting hens is to confine them in an outside coop on the ground, where they are fed and watered, but where there is no nest. In two or three days let them out at night, when, if they persist in setting, they return to the nests, or they can go on to the perches. After dark look over the nests and carry out the setters again, till they finally give it up and return to the business of laying. It requires a little care and work, but it is a legitimate charge upon the business, unless provided against by keeping non-setters only.

Sints and Selps

Cut worms do not like buckwheat.

The poor farmer hates an agricultural paper.

Why not breed for eggs from poultry as cows are bred for milk?

Sawdust, if properly cared for, makes an excellent bedding for cows.

Agriculture fills the farmer's pocket at the expense of no other man.

The all-above ground silo is far preferable to one sunk wholly, or in part.

Look over the fruit trees and see if there are any caterpillars' eggs on the limbs.

There will, for the next ten years at least, be a good demand in America for grade draft horses.

When you have hatched as many chicks as you can feed and care for properly, you have enough.

The progressive farmer knows he can get more ideas from a good farm paper than any other way.

On the farm much time is lost for the want of system about work and convenient arrangements for work.

A live farmer will make his hogs their own doctor by giving them grass, sulphur and charcoal to eat at will.

Land designed for alfalfa should be brought to the condition of good tilth by thorough ploughing and harrowing.

Many a drunkard began his slavery to strong drink by going to the cider barrel in the cellar of the old farmhouse.

Farmers must breed and feed much better than they have been doing, in order to make a success of dairying.

Mr. D. S. Willard names high feeding and thorough cultivation as the main requisites for success with plums.

The Orange County Farmer hears "nothing but good words for the Emerald Gem muskmelon" from those who raised it.

Fowls that are kept supplied with gravel, charcoal and green food are not often troubled with indigestion or diarrhoea.

A poultryman near Boston reports an average of 129 eggs from thirty-six Light Brahma hens last year. All were pullets but four.

The ration of Mary Anne of St. Lambert, in her great butter test, was given as 25 lbs. of oats, 6 of oil meal, 17 of pea meal, and 2 of bran.

All buttermakers do not know that salt to some degree absorbs odors as well as milk; consequently dairy salt should be stored where this cannot occur.

Mr. E. H. Libby tried the hen and young chicken remedy for onion maggots, and says it works; one brood is declared to be enough to rid an acre of the insects.

The American Poultry Yard would like to annex Canada since it saw the exhibit of Canadian birds at the show of the Buffalo International Poultry Society.

Denmark is a great dairy country, the cows averaging about one to every two people. Although a small country, there are 200 co-operative dairies. Milk is paid for by the quantity of cream contained in it.

This is the first year for me taking the ADVOCATE, and I must say I am much pleased with it. I do not think it will be the last, in fact, one copy is worth the money.—JAMES L. FRAME, South Branch, Midd., Stewiack, N. S.

Spavins in horses may sometimes be removed, or rather checked in growth, when coming on. A quack will often cause permanent injury. There will always be a blemish, but perhaps not permanent lameness. An old established spavin, bone or bog, is not curable.

The hen is an egg-machine the same as a cow is a milk-machine, and the food that goes in at the mouth gives character to the products. Starved hens lay starved eggs, or stop business, just the same as starved and half-frozen cows give starved milk or "dry up,"—largely the latter.

Each pound of poor cheese and butter put upon the market injures the price and prevents the sale of five pounds of good cheese and butter.

Poultry manure is nearly equal in value to Peruvian guano (except that it contains more water), and it deserves to be carefully preserved and judiciously used. It is as well worth one dollar per bushel as guano is worth seventy-five dollars a ton.

How would it do for us all to settle down to a little consideration of business, and think a little, and figure a little, and think everybody else knows a little? All this might lead to a little improvement upon our farms, and bring a little more profit to all.

A correspondent of the Country Gentleman advises dusting the poultry house well with air slaked lime instead of whitewashing. There is little doubt this is wisdom. When lime wash is applied it at once hardens, and instead of being death to insects, makes more hiding places for them, while the lime dust is certainly death to them.

When hens learn to eat eggs they never forget the trick, and should be killed before they could teach others the habit. Eggs should be gathered twice a day during cold weather, and only glass or porcelain nest eggs should be left in at night. By noticing which hens try to break these imitation eggs the guilty fowls can sometimes be discovered.

A California correspondent of the Poultry Monthly writes to that paper thus:—"I have hens that clear two dollars and a-half a year each with eggs at fifteen cents a dozen, and full grown chicks at thirty-five cents each. I set two or three hens at one time, and then consolidate the broods. I have had hens that would care for twenty-five chicks at once. I don't do it for pleasure though. I work at it, and work hard, and get just what I aim for, namely, profit." The foregoing shows that there is money in the poultry business where labor and brains combine, and we have yet to learn of any industry in which money can be made without these requisites.

A correspondent in Hoard's Dairyman says: "I was troubled with abortion in my herd, until it looked as though every cow and heifer I had would lose their calves. In my anxiety, I wrote to several papers. I read of a Frenchman who had stopped the plague by buying a common billy goat and tying him up in the stable. I first made trenches with slat floors for the cows to stand on and catch the urine; put in new troughs well smeared with coal tar, and then let a 25-cent billy goat run with the cows. From that day to this I have not had any abortion in my herd, now numbering over 80 head. I was laughed at by the editor of this paper when I related my success, but 'he who laughs last laughs best,' and the experiment does not cost much."

Speaking of lime wash for poultry houses, O. S. Bliss says: "In a few hours the wash becomes dried and as harmless as sand, every destructive agent in it being effectually locked up. But the habitable retreats of the insects have been increased in number a hundred or a thousand fold. Cracks and other places without number which before were uninhabitable by them have had the dust wiped out, or wet down, and a protecting scale of whitewash hung up before them, thus creating many a new nidus where none existed before. If a house is really infested and it becomes desirable to clean it out to get rid of the vermin, it is easier, cheaper and far more effective to apply strong soap-suds with or without the addition of kerosene, spirits of turpentine, or any other of the agents employed to render it more effective. Such a wash not only kills the vermin, but detaches the accretions which protect them and leaves a free open space, which is greatly preferable to one partly filled with anything, except it be fine, dry dust in which insects cannot live. If the cracks and other open spaces in a poultry house are to be filled at all it should be with mortar containing sufficient plaster of paris, raw or calcined, or other similar substance, to make the filling solid. But I repeat what I have often said, that there is no occasion for any of these things when the supply of dust is what it should be in every case."