

**PROMISING YOUNG HORSE.**—A Hambletonian colt, the property of Mr. Robert Bonner, made a remarkable exhibition of speed early in November. The colt was driven by Mr. Bonner to a road wagon, from his stables in New York to the Fashion Course Long Island, a distance of seven miles. After his arrival there, Mr. Bonner drove him to his road wagon—the wagon and driver weighing three hundred and twelve pounds—a half mile in 1.11½; the second quarter mile of this half in 34½ seconds, being a 2.18 gait to a road wagon! The colt then was harnessed to a sulky, and John Murphy drove him a mile in 2.19½. The first half of the mile in 1.10½, and the second in 1.09½. He was timed by Mr. Humphrey, Mr. Simmons, Mr. Borst, the trainer, and others. This is the fastest time by three seconds ever made on this course.

**FISH CULTURE.**—E. Sterling, Cleveland, O., says that "fish ponds must vary in size, according to the supply of water; and, for raising brook trout, the mean annual temperature must not be above fifty degrees Fah. They will live in warmer waters—say sixty-five degrees—but you cannot propagate and raise healthy fish in such water. The black bass of our lakes is a superior fish to the brook trout, both for the table and for sport, and will do well in water where the summer temperature is up to seventy-five degrees Fah."

The *American Farmer*, Rochester, in speaking of the profits of butter-making, mentions a farm in Western New-York, of one hundred and seventy-two acres, from which is annually sold butter to the amount of over \$2000. There are thirty cows kept on the farm, and the milk is churned by dog-power. Besides this, the farm has produced the present year 1150 bushels of wheat, 1000 bushels of sound corn, beside a large crop of hay, five acres of sweet corn sown in drills for fodder, potatoes, oats, etc.

The *Agriculturist*, in discoursing of milking machines, says:—"The best is doubtless a stout calf—which squeezes and sucks the teat, and occasionally butts. Next best is the human hand; probably the female hand, as this is managed with force enough, gentleness and patience. Men make very good milkers if they try. As to mechanical contrivances for milking we have seen several, and some would milk apparently pretty well, but we never yet have had any evidence that they could be long used with safety to the cows, with economy, or without rapidly drying up the flow of milk."

The *Prairie Farmer* devotes a column to an article on "mast," in the course of which he says: "What wild grass is to horses and cattle, that is mast to swine. Throughout the Northwest, nuts are of untold value to hogs. They may be hard for the human stomach to digest; but swine are never dyspeptic. The fame of the Westphalia hams is owing largely to the fact that the animals are fed on nuts." And in connection with many facts bearing upon this point, suggests that, inasmuch as it is the part of wisdom to take advantage of the production that gives us without toil. Western farmers should refrain from destroying nut-bearing trees, and when practicable, always plant such when a new field is to be appropriated to forest growth.

The trade in eggs in England increases. From 1843 to 1847 the imports amounted to 73,000,000 of eggs; during the next five years 103,000,000 on an average; in the following year 147,000,000, and in 1866, 430,878,889 eggs, value £1,007,197. The

greater part came from France; and the harbors from which the greatest exports take place are Calais, Cherbourg, and Honfleur. At Calis the eggs are packed in chests and straw 1,100 in each chest; at Cherbourg and Hamleaur, in chests of 600 to 1,200. The business is very profitable.

**OVERREACHING HORSES** may be cured by paring the heel of the forward foot low, and the toe of the hind foot low. This causes the horse, as he moves forward, to raise the forward foot quicker, and allows the hind foot to remain longer, so that before the hind foot comes forward the fore foot is out of the way. Also, make the forward shoe long. If my reasoning is not plain, let any one try the experiment, and he will be satisfied.—*Stock Journal*.

## The Garden.

### UNPROFITABLE FRUIT CULTURE.

—So many highly-colored accounts have appeared in print, setting forth the profitableness of the fruit business in general, and the culture of small fruits in particular, that many persons have an exaggerated idea of the whole thing, and are led to suppose that all they have to do to be sure of making a little fortune is to get a few acres of land planted with currants, gooseberries, raspberries, blackberries, strawberries and the like, and then quietly reap their golden harvest. But, like the dazzling tales of success in gold-mining, the cases of persons who have made large profits in this way are exceptional. Not but that it pays to raise fruit, just as all cultivation, industriously and wisely pursued, pays, in a moderate fashion. Mother earth is never ungrateful to the assiduities of her children. But it is only now and then she bestows a suddenly-enriching return. We always hear of the brilliant successes, occasionally we are informed of steady, moderate profits being made; but rarely are we permitted to know anything about the down-right failures. Now and then we get honest reports of the other side of the question, and those who have lost, instead of gaining money at fruit-growing, tell us their experience. A case or two of this kind has recently come under our eye, in looking over our American exchanges.

P. S. Luiderman, of South Haven, Michigan, reports as follows in the *Western Rural*: He shipped 12 crates (192 quarts) of Lawton blackberries to Chicago. Freights, truckage, commission and crates cost \$7 55; the berries sold for \$12 64; leaving \$5 09, or 2 cents and 6½ mills per quart for picking, shipping, postage, &c., to say nothing of cultivation, capital invested in land, &c. He tried a patch of strawberries, but had ploughed them up. One of his neighbors had one and a half acres; he tried them two years, and has ploughed most of them up. His only object, he