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up there; they were also very large, although the party he bought them of had sorted them previously, picking out the largest to boil for the table. We cut them for seed, and we cut twenty-five sets from one potato.

"It is a grand place to grow crops, especially in the bush. If any one wants to get a home, there are thousands of acres of burnt land, and thousands of acres of bush, not taken up yet, quite close to neighbors, where any one that will work at all can make a living easily without much delay. It is said that the best of the land is unsurveyed, but that is far from the thickly-settled district. The price of these lands is 50c. per acre, 20c. down, the balance in three years.

"I know one party who had twenty acres of fine bush cut down (chopped), and after that he let an acquaintance have ten acres for three years for logging and clearing it. He had the finest crops off it I ever saw. Such wheat and barley! the wheat stooling out twenty stalks to one grain of seed, one bushel of seed being sufficient for one acre. He had the finest potatoes I ever saw, and onions in splendid condition. This man came on the land with his wife, two sons and one daughter, in very poor circumstances. Now he has enough to keep his family all next winter. He has taken up 200 acres of bush close by. His sons worked out last spring and sent the old folks money.

"It is not very hard to get hold of land, but it is hard to work it and live while the crop grows. Why does not the Government endeavor to do something for the thousands of young men and old men, who are willing and anxious to work?

* * * Now, if the Government of Canada were to send a few thousand deserving men into the bush, giving them each a farm, taking them on it, advancing rations, seed, and the few tools—to be paid for in a few years' time—what a lot of people would jump at that offer, and what a lot of land could be cleared up without costing the country a dollar in the long run!"

Poultry Yard.

A Feed of Raw Onions

Chopped up fresh once a week, in cold weather, is a very good change for "green feed" to fowl-stock, after they are housed for the winter, and field foraging is no longer available for the season. This vegetable is eagerly eaten by poultry, young or old, if not too lavishly fed to them, or given too often. It helps to keep vermin off their bodies, too, as the garlic works outwardly, through the skinpores, as well as inwardly upon the digestive functions.

Raw vegetables, chopped fine—such as cabbage, turnips, ruta-bagas and carrots, will all be eaten with avidity by fowls in cold weather, if fed to them with discretion, and not too frequently. And some of these are a desideratum to our poultry stock, during the months when they cannot have access to the fields or orchards, for grass, etc.

Fowls Drink Water Freely,

But they know just how much they need, and when they have access to the fluid, clean, sweet and fresh, they imbibe no more than is good for them. It is, therefore, unnecessary to mix your dough too thin, and sloppy, at the morning feeding.

Have the meal well scalded, and feed the mixture to the stock stiff and dry, comparatively. This feed should, generally, be composed of both corn meal, with vegetables—say one-third each. In our own practice we have found this preferable, both for the birds and as an economical provision, for the old or the growing stock. A little pepper occasionally in this dough and always salt, will improve the mess.

Food for Laying Hens.

We have frequently given our views, and the results of our experience, in the matter of properly feeding laying hens, through the columns of *The Poultry World*. But an old patron inquires about this process latterly, and we again apply to "J. L.," of Germantown, Penn., for his benefit, and for those who may have forgotten what we have heretofore written on this topic.

The appropriate way to feed layers to profit, is, give them a good variety of egg-producing nourishment. Corn-feeding, merely, is but poor stuff for this purpose. It is too heating, too drying to blood and tissue, too fattening—as a rule.

In the season when hens are laying (or when they are about to commence to lay), we have found that oats, wheat, cracked corn, barley, and dry chandlers' scraps—in about five equal parts, are decidedly the best kinds of provender to supply them with, in confinement, for two of the three daily meals. But this system must be varied, or they will eat the wheat and scraps to repletion, and give the oats and barley the go-by. At night, give them whole corn and wheat.

Feed every other day with the above supplies, and three times a week furnish them with chopped vegetables in meal, with granulated bones, instead of scraps, or chopped (cooked) coarse meat.

In the morning, regularly in cold weather, supply the warm mash of scalded corn and rye meal. Let them have plenty of clean, dry gravel, lime and pulverized oyster shells always at hand.—*Poultry World*.

Last year the value of the eggs imported into England, says the *Pall Mall Gazette*, was £2,610, 231, but even this large importation failed to satisfy our requirements, and the high price of eggs in the market at the present time shows that we could buy more and eat more if we could only get them. It seems probable that substantial help in this as in others matters relating to food supply will come from the other side of the Atlantic. Canada is establishing an egg trade with us which promises to assume important dimensions. Last week one steamer alone brought to Liverpool from Canada 280 barrels of eggs, and there is every prospect of a continuous stream of eggs setting in from that country.

Correspondence—Continued.

Top Dressing Wheat Crop.

SIR,—I would like to know the best kind of artificial manure for top dressing wheat on sandy soil.

Almonte P. O., Ont.

[Had you farm-yard manure, it would be second to no artificial manure for top dressing, where there is not a want in the soil of some one element necessary for successful wheat-growing. But your enquiry is for artificial manure. A dressing of ashes and plaster, sown early in the spring on light sandy soil, produces generally an excellent effect. A top dressing of superphosphate, 200 pounds to the acre, has been used with very good results. Some add to the superphosphate, nitrate of soda, 150 pounds. It has been known both in England and the States to pay well, greatly increasing the yield. Even superphosphate by itself is quite as superior as superphosphates.]

The History of the Redfern Wheat.

"HONOR TO WHOM HONOR IS DUE."

SIR,—Ten years ago a young farmer of the Township of Pittsburg, named Edwin Redfern, procured four bushels of Fife wheat from his neighbor, Henry Reese, which had been obtained as a change of seed, from Montreal. Seed time was followed by harvest, according to the promise. Not possessing a reaper, our friend went to work with the cradle, and was in the act of swinging it for a blow when he paused, for his quick eye observed within reach of the cradle, a tall bearded plant of wheat, towering above the rest. This was the Redfern wheat. Laying down his cradle he plucked up the plant, which contained fourteen heads, all full to the top. Seeing that he had made a discovery, he showed them to his neighbors, thereby losing seven during the ensuing winter, so that he had only 180 grains to sow the next spring, and these were forgotten in that hurried season until after the planting was done, and they did not ripen, of course, with the rest of his grain. So his little crop of three sheaves were pulled up green, none too soon to save them from his cattle, who had eaten every green thing around where they grew, by the next morning. Bad years followed, in which many farmers had not a yield of over four fold, and in which the new wheat proved itself superior to the old. Its discoverer, with a generosity equal to his intelligence and quickness of perception, exchanged his wheat with brother farmers bushel for bushel, having first honorably and wisely proved its grinding qualities before recommending it to others. How favorably his conduct compares with those speculators who are endeavoring to perpetuate that fraud, the Eldorado wheat. While putting hundreds of dollars into the pockets of the farmers of Canada, he has not put any in his own. Nor has

he ever received any public acknowledgment of his services. If the man is called a public benefactor who makes two blades of grass grow where one grew before, then I think that Edwin Redfern is deserving of some meed of praise. What does the FARMERS' ADVOCATE say? G.

Hog Cholera.

SIR,—If you know any cure for hog cholera, let us know. Likewise, anything that will prevent them from taking the epidemic. What are your ideas of the Sulky Plow? Where are they manufactured, and what is the price of them?

Olinda, Ont.

ESSEX FARMER.

[Treatment—Administer quickly in first stage of the disease, before diarrhoea sets in, the following:—

Take of Epsom salts 2 to 4 oz.

Sulphur, 2 to 6 drams

Gentian, 1 to 2 drams

Warm ale, half a pint.

The action of the bowels should also be assisted by means of clysters. It is well to rub the body well with a flannel cloth. Be sure to have the styes well cleaned, and plenty of ventilation; in fact it is better to turn them out into a yard to roam about. Preventive treatment consists in cautious feeding, exercise and cleanliness, with a carefully-regulated admixture of vegetable food.]

RUDD & TENNENT.

Veterinary surgeons,
London.

To Implement Manufacturers.

We have enquiries for the self-acting binding reaping-machine from Malorytown and from Brant; for a Sulkey plow from Simcoe; for a manure and grain drill from Longwoods; for a hay loader from Prince Edward's Island.

REPLY TO APPLICANTS.—We are not sure if any of these implements are made in Canada. As soon as any are made here we wish to be able to furnish applicants with information about them. We will try to furnish information to each of you. The duty of 17½ per cent. prevents as many being used in Canada as would otherwise be. The first who makes these implements in Canada will benefit the country, as there will be a demand for some of them as soon as they are introduced.

Rats in Missouri.

A correspondent of the *Rural World* tells a sad tale of the doings of rats in that part of the world. Hear the lamentations of Granger, Mo.

I desire to attract steady attention from farmers, merchants and housekeepers to a little animal—a rodent—that is eating out their vitals, mostly when they are asleep. To estimate the maximum of the damage done yearly to the nation, or to counties and towns, or even to individual farmers, is an impossibility. It is the rat that I would call every person's attention to in these United States, if they wish to avert general ruin. Those little creatures multiply very rapidly, and are astonishingly sagacious, and no partial or isolated war made upon them will avail a fig's worth. It must be a general war; every one must be engaged in it, from the gulf to the great lakes, if we are to obtain a victory. The universal cry should be "Down with the rats!"

I know of three acres of corn, which would have produced about ten barrels or fifty bushels to the acre, entirely eaten up in September last by rats. I also know of a field of ten acres, good for eight barrels per acre, swept clean and clear of every ear by rats. But these items are mere bagatelles as to destruction, when compared with what is done to the different cereals in cribs, corn houses, &c., I have known of hundreds of pounds of the best bacon hams destroyed by rats. I have known of hundreds of young turkeys, goslings and chickens being eaten up by rats. My knowledge of rat damage, though I am 83 years old, is as nothing to the knowledge of hundreds of persons who are not privileged to keep house or marry on account of their minority. Shall we boast of our progress and freedom, and sit down to be governed and eaten by rats?

See advertisement—Little Rock and Fort Smith RR. Lands.