

Western Corn.

To Our Friends.

We have a good supply of cereals—field seeds, roots, flower seeds and bulbs, and are ready and willing to supply you. No one shall have a just cause of complaint against us if we can possibly avoid it. We have the best cereals Canada has produced. Our field seeds have just arrived fresh per steamship "Germany," also, we have received a choice supply of flower seed from Vick, of Rochester. Our lilies and bulbs are yet to arrive from Holland. See our next issue, and refer also to last catalogue, make your selection, and order what you desire.

Caution.

There was a recipe for botts published in a previous number of this journal, clipped from Chase's Recipes. One of our subscribers informs us that he has tried it and the result was the most disastrous. We are unable to test every recipe we may publish.

Live Stock Journals.

The *Live Stock Journal*, published in New York, and the *National Live Stock Journal*, published in Chicago, are two excellent and handsome journals. They are well deserving of the attention of our Canadian breeders. The price of the first-named is \$1.50 per annum, and the second is \$2 per annum. They are both in their third volume, and we think the last numbers are about the best that have yet been issued.

Those persons who gained eggs by getting up clubs for the **ADVOCATE** will have them sent the middle of this month or later, as they desire. State whether you wish them sent with seeds or by express, and whether you want Dorkings, Black Spanish, Brahmas, or Aylesbury or Rouen ducks, from choice stock.

—Leave well alone is a good rule, but leave ill alone is better.

To Advertisers & Correspond'rs.

Advertisements and communications, to secure insertion, should be sent so as to reach us by the 20th of the month. If sent later, they *may* be in time, but will *probably* be too late.

NOTICE!—The \$13 per pound turnip seed mentioned in another part of the paper is an error, on account of our aid reading the invoice erroneously. Consequently, that seed will not be sent out.

 Elwanger & Barry, of Rochester, N. Y., employ 250 men in their establishment. They have 650 acres devoted to the nursery business.

From exchange papers we see that from 35 to 40 per cent. of the stock in many parts of Texas have died from cold and storms during the past winter.

HINTS FOR THE MONTH OF APRIL.

SIR,—Do not expect to find here a monitor for the whole routine of business for this season. 'Perhaps thou art unacquainted with it; observe thy industrious neighbor, or let the fields and meadows be thy monitors,' when I have collected the fragments of your business and flung them before you that they might not grow to a heavy burden if suffered to lag behind.—While the ground is soft and the grass tender do not let your cattle tread up the roots or impede their growth by too early grazing. Give your pastures several weeks' credit in the spring; they will pay you interest and principal in the summer. Attend well to your fences this month: repair the old and put new where they are wanted. Good fences are the Magna Charta of farmers' rights. And when you are employed in this business remember that a piece of work well finished once is better than but half done a dozen times.—Poor fences and short feed make lean cattle and ill-natured neighbors. Let your orchards be attended to; in-graft scions of the best fruit into those trees that produce bad, and the trouble and expense will be small compared with the utility. When you set your trees remember it is with them as with horses—it costs no more to rear a good one than a bad one. If you wish for plenty of apples in the fall and winter, spare no pains in keeping off the worms and caterpillars in the spring.

Now is the time for the girls to look after their flowers and seeds. If any of them have not the kinds they would wish, perhaps some of their big brothers or some other young man, I won't say who, will get them some.

A. ADAMS.

Bury's Green, March 11, 1872.

HOW TO DRAIN WHEAT FIELDS.

A correspondent of the *Country Gentleman* tells how a farmer surface-drains his wheat lands so as not to interfere with the reaper. He commences by plowing two furrows each way, which are so arranged that the last one leaves an open or dead furrow. Then he gives those furrows a thorough harrowing, making all fine and smooth; this of course partly fills up the dead furrow, which is then cleaned out by a plank furrow cleaner, that takes a sweep of some six feet—three each way—and spreads and smooths off all taken from the dead furrow. This is done before the wheat is drilled in. — *Carolina Farmer*.

RECIPES.

To Cook a Beef-Steak or Mutton-Chop.—Cut thin and place between two plates on a hot stove or in the oven. The upper plate keeps in the steam and the meat is more juicy than when cooked in a frying pan. This mode is especially suited for venison, as it preserves the fine game flavour. Salt herrings may be cooked in the same way, but they should be steeped in fresh water a couple of days to draw the salt out of them.

To Cook Red Herrings.—Pour some proof whiskey into a soup plate; lay two or three slips of wood across, place your herrings upon them, and set fire to the whiskey. Turn them once, and by the time the whiskey is all burnt they will be done.

[The above are two contributed recipes by one of our readers, and we insert them hoping others may send us some. We think the her-ring cooking would be a rather expensive and dangerous operation in some instances, as the fuel might be consumed before the dinner was cooked and evil consequences might follow.]

BOTS.

I saw in your journal an article from "A Subscriber," in relation to the cure of bots in horses. I have made the horse a study for years, and take issue with him in regard to their origin. He is mistaken about the nit fly depositing its eggs to produce them. They are natural in the horse, and it seems to be necessary for horses to have them to aid in the digestion of their food. You may make a colt as soon as it is foaled, cut its ears, and you will find them; and I believe all works on the horse, and his treatment, will sustain this view of the nature and origin of the bots. True, horses are often killed by them. When the horse eats something that disagrees with him, his stomach becomes sour, which causes the bot to leave that organ for the maw, where they produce inflammation, which, if not corrected, results in death often. My remedy is one ounce of chloroform, and one pint of linseed oil, in a pint of warm water, used as a drench. The chloroform will diffuse itself through the system and stupefy the bots, causing them to let go their hold on the maw; then the oil acts as a cathartic, and heals the wounded places. I have never known this remedy to fail in a single case. I will also give you one sure for colic in horses, as follows:—One ounce sulphur, one ounce laudanum, one tablespoonful of soda; mix in one pint of warm water, and drench. The bots will not affect the horse very much in the same manner; still there is a difference, as in some cases the nostrils are expanded, the breathing fast and hard, and the extremities are cold. In colic, the nostrils are contracted and the extremities cold.—"B," in *Southern Farmer*.

Farmer. Another correspondent in the same periodical says: "I have cured many horses said to have the bots, though I believe it is all colic, and I have been reading everything on 'bots' since about 1831 that I found in print before and since that date. I am an unbeliever in bots killing the horse, and for twenty years I treated for colic. I use only chloroform, say half an ounce in tepid water, or whiskey and tepid water, if relief is not given in fifteen minutes, repeat. I had only lost one animal since I used chloroform, and she, Sally P., the best Canadian for gentleness, docility and speed I ever saw—a three minute under saddle or in harness. I would not hesitate to use one ounce, and it was the dose recommended me about 1845 to 1890; but I found generally half an ounce was enough."

A correspondent of the *Prairie Farmer* communicates the following facts:—On the 24th of October he put up 20 hogs, and killed them at the end of ten weeks. They weighed on being penned 4070 lbs.; were first fed on dry shelled corn, and in four weeks had gained 837 lbs., at a cost of 83 bushels, being 10.08 lbs. of meat to each bushel of corn consumed. They were then put on dry meal for two weeks, and gained 553 lbs. on 47 bushels, equivalent to 11.76 lbs. per bushel. Lastly, they were fed two weeks on mush, and from 464 bushels of corn, 639 lbs. of meat was gained, equal to 14.96 lbs. per bushel. Put the pork at 10c. per lb., and it will be seen that the corn fed was sold as follows:—Dry shelled, per bushel, \$1; ground, dry, per bush., \$1.17; ground, wet, per bush., \$1.31; in mush, per bushel, \$1.46. By reversing the mode of putting the cash, it will be found that 60 lbs. corn fed as mush, equal to 107 lbs. fed in the natural raw state. We are prepared to show that if every man in the South should act on the above facts we would have more than ten millions of dollars annually—equal to the 23th part of the cotton crop. That would be a wise legislature which would make it a penalty for a man to waste his substance.—*Practical Farmer.*

Horticultural.

A FEW HINTS ON PLANTING TREES.

It seems a very simple thing to plant a tree, and almost every farmer thinks he knows how to do it, but it is seldom well done. It is a more important operation than is generally supposed, for the life of the tree and all its future health and fruitfulness are directly dependent upon it. Right planting is the foundation and corner-stone of all successful horticulture; for if a man commences his life and experiences by building up from this small element, the probabilities are that he will be sure to understand and master thoroughly the knowledge of all the subsequent arts to produce the vigorous trees and abundance of fruit.

It has seemed to me reasonable to throw out a few hints in a condensed form, which shall prove a help to beginners, for there are many every year, and also to assist those who are among the afflicted already.

1. Plant *young* trees, both in your orchards and your gardens. They cost less in actual price, in freight, and in planting, than older trees. They are surer to grow, have more and better small fibrous roots, will adapt themselves quicker to the soil and location, and with equal watching and care will grow so

vigorously as to excel older trees both in abundance of fruit, size, health, and earliness of bearing. Never choose standard apples, pears, plums, or cherries more than two years, and dwarf trees one year old.

2. Be careful, where a choice is allowed you, in your choice of *soils*. A sandy soil is leachy, contains no moisture, and is liable to drought. A very heavy, clayey soil is directly the opposite—too wet, tough, and adhesive. A gravelly soil is hardly more desirable; but a deep, loamy, or alluvial soil may always form a good choice.

3. Let the land be well *drained*. Never plant where there is the remotest chance for water to settle and stand near the surface. It will surely ruin the tree and blight all hope for fruit.

4. When you are ready to plant, hitch up two teams. Let the first plow to the depth of one foot, a strip six feet or more wide. Let the second follow with the subsoil litterer, and stir to the depth of two feet; cross-plow in the same manner a strip of same width; then dig holes one foot or more deep, three feet in diameter; place the tree at the same depth as when removed from its former place; replace the earth, taking care not to bend or crum the rootlets of the tree, and always allow abundance of lateral room for the growth of the roots. Many inexperienced persons lose their trees from too deep setting. *No tree should be set lower in the earth than its original position.* Where the ground has not been plowed and subsoiled, the planter must invariably dig his holes two feet deep and four or more wide.

5. Mix with the earth, before it is returned to the hole and is placed around the roots of the tree, a good compost of ashes, well rotted stable manure, and chip manure mixed together. Leaf mould, muck, and lime may all form part of the compost. Let a large portion of the compost be placed beneath, but not in contact with the roots of the tree, and the remainder on the surface of the ground, to act as a mulch. The quantity will vary, according to the size of the tree, from a half bushel upward.

6. If any of the roots are mutilated or bruised, pare them off with a sharp knife to prevent decay; cut back on the under side until you reach the sound wood. Nearly all the trees that come from the nurseries have lost some of their roots, and their branches must be shortened in the same proportion.— At the time of planting, prune all branches back to three or four buds from the base of each branch.

7. *Mulching* is almost indispensable. The earth should rise like a small mound toward the trunk of the tree, and over this should be a mulch two inches deep of hay, half decomposed manure, sawdust or tan-bark. It not only saves the labor of cultivation, but prevents the moisture of the soil from evaporation, renders the temperature more uniform, and prevents injurious effects from frost. The mulch should extend beyond the tips of the roots. —*Horticulturist*.

A REMEDY FOR CUT-WORMS AND WIRE-WORMS.

Conversing with an old farmer a few years ago on this subject, he told me that he was in the habit of soaking his seed corn in strong brine—meat pickle would answer—and that corn thus treated was never injured by worms. I think he said he soaked his seed in the pickle about twenty-four hours. I expressed some apprehension that steeping corn in brine would injure the germinating principle, but he assured me that such was not the case, as it all came up well. He said he once farmed a place to the shares, and intended pursuing this plan with his seed-corn, but his landlord objected, thinking it would ruin the seed; he, however, after much persuasion, consented that a portion of it should be thus treated, and the result was that the corn from the pickled seed came up well, and grew on undisturbed by worms, while that from the dry seed was almost totally destroyed by them.

I remember of hearing my father tell once of some peach trees he once had in his yard, and which were badly injured by the borer.— In order to destroy the worms he poured a quantity of fish pickle about the roots. The trees bore a plentiful crop of peaches, but the fruit was so salty as to be unfit for use. It would appear from this that the saline particles were taken up in the circulation of the tree, and thus disseminated to the fruit, and this may account for the efficacy of the salting process in the case of seed corn, the saline matter being taken into the plant, and thus preventing the ravages of worms.—L. D. LITTLE, in *Practical Farmer*.