

The Farm.

Protecting Stock From Cold.

Before November closes all the crannies in the walls of buildings or in the siding which the weather has made during the year should be filled. All old buildings become very cold by the dropping out of mortar used to put up the walls of buildings. For this a day's work with a barrel of mortar and a trowel will do wonders. If knotholes appear in boards nail a strip of board over them. If a man has no basement to his barn, or even no barn, he may keep his stock almost as comfortable as in a basement by making a shed, and piling against it all around a lot of rails, filling the space between the rails and the siding with straw or with hay that is damaged so that it is no better than straw. If the stock is kept warm by such use of provender it will do the animal more good than to consume it as food. It is really used as warmth either way, as digestion of food warms the body, and the more chill there is to the outside the greater is the diversion of this internal carbon to furnish heat, when, if the animal were kept warm, the food would be changed to flesh or fat.—(American Cultivator.

All's Well That Ends Well.

The results of observation and experience have been condensed into many proverbial phrases whose survival proves their fitness and establishes the soundness of their philosophy. Approved by popular verdict, they pass into sayings which are on all lips and will be quoted until the end of time. In that phrase to which attention is here called, the raison d'être, as the French term it, is very evident. To every man who is constructed of the right fibre adversity is prosperous. The discipline of defeat and humiliation tempers their steel and gives it such flexibility that while they bend they will not break. The qualities most essential to success are those which are brought out by opposition and hindrance.

True progress is to be estimated rather by the difficulties overcome than by the celerity of the passage from point to point. To make headway against wind and tide is a better test of a vessel's mettle than when conditions are reversed. The principle holds true in all application. The best pay is not the man with a plethoric pocket-book who from his large reserve can plank down the ready cash at every purchase, but the man of meagre resources, who has to strain and struggle to make ends meet, and who, doing his level best, cannot always be prompt, but yet sooner or later meets every liability and never evades an account or dodges a creditor.

At an alumni meeting of one of our colleges this summer, when subscriptions were being called for to increase the college funds, one of the older graduates, a man of large means, subscribed \$100. "It is as easy for him to do that," said one to whom fortune had been grudging of her pecuniary favors, "as for you or me to subscribe ten cents."

Yet all's well that ends well. Steep hills may and must be climbed. Passing on the road an itinerant pedler toiling along with his heavy pack, coarsely clad and common looking in the extreme, yet the thought came as we looked at him. "There may be an incipient department store in that pack and a future merchant prince under it."

Hard times and hard lines need not be accepted as discouragement. Let them rather serve as spurs to noble ambition. Competition may be sharp and the highways crowded. But there is always room at the top. The world is full of instances of those who were handicapped at the start. But they pulled out all the stops and swept themselves to their full diapason, and the world heard from them before it was done with them. To all earnest and energetic spirits the last ditch is never stationary. It can always be shoved further forward. Push your way to the goal—it is not crowded as the starting point—and say, with the Irishman, "I'll be first at last, even if I was behind before."—(Isaac L. Kip,

Saving Agricultural Clippings.

One does not need one of the elaborate "Index Rerums" in order to enjoy the use of a very useful device for saving clippings from farm papers. Make a box a foot in length and just wide and deep enough to take in a No. 6 1/2 envelope. Have movable partitions. Buy four packs of stout envelopes, and as clippings are made from the agricultural papers put them in these and write the subject on each envelope. Keep envelopes of the same general subjects together. This is much better than a scrapbook, for many articles will be found on both sides of the clipping—a matter which throws them out of a scrapbook. It is much less work, moreover, to cut out a slip and put it in its appropriate envelope than to get paste and brush and fix it into a book. With the envelopes, too, one can keep all subjects by themselves, and so instantly available. The movable partitions can have the subjects adjacent to them marked on the upper edges.—(D.

Common Cows In The Dairy.

There is not much lack in this country of advanced dairy teaching of the highest kind, but there is a notable absence of the intermediate instruction of the kind necessary to advance, by regular steps, the dairy methods in vogue on Western farms. As a very large part of the butter made in the country is still made on the farms such instruction as would raise the quality of farm butter two or three cents per pound would be of vastly more importance than an improvement in the methods that would raise the price of creamery butter to the same extent.

We have already had occasion to note that the Kansas Agricultural College is devoting a chief share of its attention along dairy lines to instruction of the kind calculated to improve farm dairy methods. Among other things, the college has secured a herd of good average Kansas cows. There is no pretence that they are the best cows. They weigh from 1,000 to 1,100 pounds, and do not have the dairy form to any notable extent. The effort will be made to see not whether dairy cows will pay in Kansas, but whether average cows, such as are common in the country, will pay. The results obtained from them will also be contrasted with the results given by herds selected for dairy excellence. The student will be taught the difference in remuneration between the carefully managed herds of common cows, thus furnishing an object-lesson with regard to the relative profitability of the average cows and the good ones.—(Home-

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