

# FARMING

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## One Day's Mail

The following complimentary references to FARMING were received on the same day last week and show that the paper is appreciated by practical and successful farmers in all parts of the country:

*Mr. D. C. Flatt*, of Millgrove, Ont., who is an extensive breeder of improved Yorkshire swine, says: "I am free to say that FARMING is equal to any journal of its kind in the Dominion, and I certainly have received a great deal of satisfaction in reading the many well-written articles pertaining to the farm."

*Mr. D. Harrison*, a successful farmer of Irena, Ont., forwards his renewal for 1899, and says: "I appreciate the benefit I have received from your paper very much indeed."

*Mr. Wm. Howe*, one of the leading breeders of improved Yorkshire swine in Northwestern Ontario, says: "I appreciate your paper very much, and would not like to be without it, having been a subscriber for about eight years. I wish you every success."

## Agricultural News and Comments

The creamy winged butterflies which we frequently see fluttering around and consider harmless are responsible for the cabbage worm plague. The insect deposits its eggs upon cabbage or any cruciferous plant of the same family, and the result is the destructive worm.

Farmers' Institute work has already commenced in Nova Scotia. A series of meetings has been arranged for by the Nova Scotia Farmers' Association, and the first one was held at Big Baddick, Cape Breton, a fortnight ago at which several practical farm topics were discussed.

Some 75,000 men are reported to have attended the superior agricultural schools of Denmark between 1844 and 1894, of whom about 11,000 have followed the agricultural schools proper. Denmark also supports a number of "seed control stations," which test all kinds of seed imported for agricultural purposes.

A great many young fruit trees are destroyed by field mice during the winter. A good preventive is coarse wrapping paper, dipped in kerosene and tied about the base of the tree as well as a few pieces laid over the nearest roots. These will repel the mice and at the same time prevent the ravages of boring beetles.

A farmer who attended a local fair in Western New York State, and was swindled out of \$96 by gamblers on the ground, has sued the fair association for the recovery of his money. If he succeeds no doubt a large number of other suits will be entered. This may ruin the fair associations concerned; but they deserve to be ruined if they allow such practices to be carried on.

A New York farmer objects very strongly to the practice of pasturing meadows in the fall. He claims that there is more money lost by so doing than what is gained from the feed which the animals secure. It is doubtless injurious to turn stock on meadows when the ground is soft and wet, but the question is if very much harm is done when the ground is dry and firm in pasturing meadows in the fall.

A great many milch cows have been sold recently in Sussex County, N.B., to be used for dairy purposes in the Eastern States. This may be a good thing for the Yankee but how will it effect the dairy business down by the sea? If the New Brunswick farmer is able to sell his poor cows

to the American buyer and keep the good ones he will help dairying in his own province and be money in pocket.

It is reported that considerable quantities of oleomargarine are being sold in the Maritime Provinces. It is said to be imported from Newfoundland and other places. The persons importing or offering this article for sale are surely very ignorant of our laws on the subject. The punishment for such an offence is a fine not exceeding four hundred dollars nor less than two hundred, and in default of payment imprisonment of not less than three months.

It is the practice in Kansas and other Western States, where the autumn months are always warm, to graze stock on the fall grains. A limited amount of grazing might be beneficial in Ontario this fall where the wheat has attained excessive growth on account of the warm weather. It does not do, however, to turn on stock if the ground is wet, as the plants will be injured by tramping and the grazing must not be too close.

The next annual meeting of the Dorset Horn Sheep Breeders' Association of America will be held at Pittsburg, Penn., January 10th, 1899. Since its organization seven years ago the association has introduced Dorsets into thirty-eight states, and to-day has 659 flocks under its care, and eighteen of these are in Canada. The only importation made during the year was by John A. McGillivray, Uxbridge, Ont., who is president of the association.

To keep apples sound all winter the following plan is recommended: Take dry sawdust and place a thick layer on the bottom of the barrel, then place a layer of apples, not close together, and not close to the sides of the barrel. Put sawdust liberally over and around and so proceed until a bushel and a half are packed in a barrel. Keep in a cool place. No bruised or mellow apples will be preserved, but they will not communicate rot to the other apples.

Dry earth containing a considerable quantity of humus is one of the best and cheapest manure preservatives. Every farm has plenty of this, and the only cost being the placing it under cover. The greatest loss in a manure pile is the escape of volatile gases such as ammonia. These can be largely preserved by sprinkling the dry earth over the manure pile and about the stalls when the stable is being cleaned. Disagreeable odors will be prevented and fertility saved.

The majority of poultry eaters like the white meat better than the dark and the fowl that best suits the majority of purchasers has a large amount of breast meat. The best market fowls carry this white meat, not only on the breast proper, but well back between the legs. A great deal of the market poultry fails to be thick-meated between the legs, which is a vital defect. Fowls should be selected for breeders whose legs stand well apart with the body between them of good width and with a tendency to put on flesh there.

An invention has recently been perfected whereby twine suitable for binding grain can be made from the common wire grass of swamp lands. It is twisted with a cotton thread wound around it to keep it from unravelling. It is heavier than ordinary twine, running 250 feet to the pound, and requires a slightly enlarged knoter to