1300



THE FARMER'S ADVOCATE. QUESTIONS AND ANSWER. Intelligence of Collie D

Miscellaneous.

WHEN TO TRANSPLANT SPRUCE.

Please tell me what is the best, or the right time to set out spruce trees. I set out a number last spring, but they have all died, except one.

AN OLD SUBSCRIBER. Ans .- Spruce trees may be transplanted successfully almost any time of the year, except when the young shoots are growing. August, we believe, is the favorite month with professionals, but many succeed well with May planting. We should be pleased to hear from any of our readers who have had experience as to just what season they have found most favorable. Experience in different localities may vary somewhat, and "The Farmer's Advocate" always seeks to collect the greatest possible variety of experience covering the greatest possible diversity of conditions. In transplanting evergreens, it is of the utmost importance that the roots be not exposed to sun or wind for even a few minutes, but kept covered with wet sacking or blankets, as owing to their resinous nature, if dried they cannot be restored to vigorous life.

HENS JUYING.

I have lost about a dozen of my hens lately. They get lame on one leg; are able to eat same as a well hen; some live only a day or two after becoming lame, others live as long as two weeks. I think it must be contagious. I care for my hens well, and they have a nice new henhouse. A SUBSCRIBER. Ans .-- I have seen one or two heas that were lame, and acted somewhat similar to the description given, that had tuberculosis. I cannot tell from this letter what is wrong, and it would be the safest thing for the correspondent to box a couple of the sick hens and send them to the Bacteriological Laboratory, O. A. C., Guelph, writing Prof. Edwards as much as he can about the feed, housing, etc. In the meantime, disinfect the place, clean out the floor, put in some fresh earth, and whitewash the place with hot lime to which has been added sufficient carbolic acid to make about a five-per-cent. solution. If the house is thoroughly sprayed, and the runs outside plowed or dug up; the disease should be checked. Leave the doors and windows open so as to give the building a good W. R. GRAHAM.

GOSSIP.

Mr. J. C. Ross, Jarvis, Ont., whose advertisement of Cotswold and Hampshire sheep, Clydesdale horses and Shorthorn cattle appears in this paper, vrites I have just arrived home from England with a fine consignment of Cotswold and Hampshire Down sheep, among which are several prominent prizewinners at the leading fairs in England. In selecting my sheep, I made a point to choose those with good breeding qualities, fine, lustrous wool, and the thick, soggy, low-down build, with good bone and plenty of substance; sheep that will cross with any breed to enhance the feeding qualities and also improve the quality and weight of fleece, as wool is now a very important factor, and is one of the main sources of the flockmaster's The Cotswolds and Hamprevenues. shires have been used more extensively than any other breed of sheep in England, as a great many farmers in the Old Country depend on their sheep to pay their annual rentals, and they are doing that at the present time and swelling their bank accounts besides, as the sheep are the most paying animals on the farm at present, both in America and the Old Land. Our sales this year have been very good, extending to all parts of America. We are at present negotiating a deal to send a consignment across the Pacific Ocean to New Zealand. Thanks o 'The Farmer's Advocate' as an advertising medium. A large percentage of our correspondents say : 'We saw our advertisement in "The Farmer's Advocate."' We have a grand lot of Cotswolds and a new good Hampshires for sale at moderate prices, quality con-

Intelligence of Collie Dogs. We were sitting on the front porch of '' Jim '' Martin's farmhouse, near Gotham, Wisconsin, discussing the points and merits of his noted Red Polled cattle as the gloaming shadows closed in upon the valley. Suddenly a stray pig from a neighbor's farm scraped in under the front gate of the driveway, and, grunting with satisfaction, commenced a foraging expedition to the lawn. But the grunts fell harshly upon the ears of two apparently sound asleep collies lying at our feet, and away went the younger of the two, bristling with indignation, while the aged patriarch, crippled from rheumatism and accident, toddled after, offended fearfully, whining with anxiety to teach a lesson such as the younger of the two was already imparting, but too slow to get into the scrap. But the stray went home a-kiting and soon the guardians of the premises resumed their nap without a word of comment from their owner. Later a neighbor arrived and hitched his horse by the garden gate, and as darkness fell, two old grey mares were turned loose and commenced grazing peacefully, after a preliminary roll of luxury on the soft green grass. But shortly the novelty wore off, and the mares, remembering previous feasts of ear corn, worked their way to the wagon shed, entered it, and getting among the implements made a racket that once again waked the dogs from their placid dreams of collie heaven. Biff ! went the young dog; "wow-o-oo" went the old one, as both started to the shed at a dash and a waddle, while their owner cried. "Put them out of there ! " and added in an aside, "I guess that's more than they'll manage." But not a bit of Soon, after much barking, noise it ! and bustle amid sounds of kicks, crashes the rattle of chains and other and articles, out came the mares on the run with the collies at their heels, urging them on until they were safely returned to where they belonged in the paddock. How this reminded us of old times in

Scotland and of many a similar exhibition of collie intelligence. Instinct, you may call it; reasoning it seems to be and wonderful always to the student of animal character and capability. Have we not heard a shepherd whisper, while smoking the pipe of peace in the ingle neuk of his cottage, the day's work over, and the collie the subject of conversation with a visiting friend, "Clyde; it's time the kye (cows) were hame, A'm thinking," at which the dog, starting from seeming slumber, would dash from the house, and speedily return at the heels of the dairy herd. You may say he knew his work from long experience, and that instinct taught him it was time for the evening home-coming of the cows, but he knew the meaning of the shepherd's words and recognized them unemphasized in a running conversation. For collies understand their master's commands, do what he tells them, and

FOUNDED 1866



Aberdeen-Angus bull for sale, Black Diamond, No. 826, 3 years old



have their own way of telling him things of import. An anxious whimper draws his attention; a growl or sharp bark speaks of something wrong or surprising, but the well-trained collie "bides at heel" until given leave to act or investigate.

How often have we seen this fact exemplified ! Up in the Cheviot Hills, on the banks of Breamish Water, not far from the village of Ingram, there is a ewe hill on the right and a wether hill on the left. The water flows between, and there is nothing else to separate the flocks. In the springtime, when the first primrose buds peep from the beild of the bowlders by the burnside, and the lambs begin to arrive, the "herd" makes his rounds three times a day, collie at heel, to see that all is right, to give assistance here, "mother" a lamb there, carry an orphan to the cottage for warmth and stimulants, keep an eye on the foxes and kindly, skillfully, lovingly care for his flock. It is a grave mistake for a wether to stay over to the ewe hill at such times, and sudden and incisive is his dismissal when discovered. But the shepherd need not look for such strays. His collie unerringly picks them from the ewes, and, indeed, descries them from afar, although, to the eye of the inexperienced, the Cheviot ewe and wether look practically identical. A low whine from "Moss" at heel causes the herd to look about, then say, " Tak' him hame, Moss!" and with a dash the (Continued on next page.)

this spring. A good individual and extra stockgetter; has never been beaten in show-ring. Price reasonable. Also one Chester White boar, old enough for service **A. G. SPAFFORD, Compton, Que.**

