

winter should have a little rest before the spring work begins. The loose coat should be well brushed out, and some linseed meal given in the feed, to help the shedding of the hair. If at night the feet are muddy or wet, wash with warm water and some soap, and rub dry with a piece of woolen blanket. It will prevent cracked heels. As the days grow warm look out for galls, and wash the shoulders with cold salt water. Scrape the inside of the collar, and keep it smooth and hard.

Cows.—Pure water, slightly warmed, with a quart of bran stirred into it, is an excellent drink for cows that have recently calved. Garget may be prevented by milking, before calving, a cow that has a very full bag. If the udder is hard and hot, give two drachms of saltpetre daily; and directly after calving a drink of bran gruel, with eight ounces of Epsom Salts, and sweetened with molasses. If the cow will not drink this, give it through the drenching horn. Prompt remedies are required for parturient troubles at this time; but prevention is safer and easier than any remedy.

Sheep.—Cold rains are very injurious to ewes and lambs. The spinal regions are remarkably sensitive to cold. Provide some small separate pens for lambing ewes, and separate rams and wethers from the ewes and lambs. A warm bath is the best restorative for a chilled lamb; after the bath, wrap the young creature in a woolen cloth and put it behind the stove for a few hours. For a large flock, the shepherd should have a place with a stove in it, in which to treat weak lambs. A few pens around the room where the weak lambs could be nursed with the ewes for a few days would be very useful.

Pigs.—The high price of pork has greatly stimulated the breeding of a good class of pigs. With the prevalent diseases, which now destroy so many hogs in the west, there will be a premium for good management. It is very clear that cleanliness and a variety of healthful food will prevent diseases. Make a good start now with the young pigs. Provide warm, clean pens for the brood sows as a beginning, and so arrange that they may have a clean pasture lot to run in; not a bare, muddy piece of waste ground, but a good piece of clover or grass, in which they may procure the bulk of their food. Breed only from thoroughbred boars; keep the best stock, and keep them healthful and growing.

Poultry.—Cleanse the poultry houses and nest boxes from lice. We have lined our poultry house with Johns' Asbestos roofing, at a cost of a few dollars only, and there is no fear of vermin of any kind in it hereafter. The smell of carbolic acid from the tar is very strong but not disagreeable, and will thoroughly disinfect the house. Provide a warm corner in the stable for the earliest brooding hens, and give extra care to the young chicks. March and April chicks will give plenty of eggs next winter.

Some Causes for Poor Butter.

The Scientific Farmer says:—Where does all the poor butter in the market come from, when we all claim to make only the prime article? And what are the causes which so affect the quality? These are questions which are many times asked. Among the causes which injure the quality of butter I will name, first, disease in the cow; fright also has an injurious effect upon the milk; breathing foul gases or odors often leaves its taint upon the milk; it is also affected by whatever the cow lives upon. Next, the cream while exposed to the air in rinsing is very susceptible to taints of all kinds; churning it at too high or too low a temperature always injures the product. Butter can be greatly hurt by overchurning, overworking, or both, and much of the butter in market is spoiled in these ways. When overworked, it appears greasy and sticky, and will keep but a very short time. The secret of this injury is in the breaking of the grain. Perfect butter, like sugar, appears, under the microscope, to be made up of granules, or crystals, and to crush and destroy these is to destroy the distinguishing feature of perfect butter, and ruin completely its keeping quality. I find, in going among dairymen and dairywomen, that a large proportion of them do not know how to make butter which will keep sweet to get to market. On seeing a package of butter being put up, I asked the good lady whether she believed her butter would keep perfect for a long time. She replied that it always had kept good until her husband carried it to the village every Tuesday, which was their market day. Thus butter was churned, washed, salted, worked and packed in less than sixty minutes from the time the cream went into the churn. If it reached the consumer in a few days it was probably eatable butter, but if, through any delay or oversight, it was set to one side for a few months it would be poor, and perhaps altogether unfit for eating or cooking.

It is said—and I have no doubt it is true—that there is more nourishment in cheese than

in butter. The latter could be well sold for forty cents, which was simply because the forty cent article was short and the fifteen cent butter over plenty. It has been said that there was too much butter made in the last two years, and that the market was consequently overstocked. I say that there was too much poor and not enough good.

Ailments in Sheep.

At this season all manners of complaints will be made about the ailments of lambs and ewes, which could generally be easily accounted for, if the owners would state how the animals had been treated, how closely they had been confined, what exercise they had had, and what food they had subsisted on. Sheep are very healthy in a general way, the ailments being less than with other animals where they can be out in the open air, and ranging daily on sound, dry soil. After attention to the comfort and proper treatment of a flock, the next best thing is to make it a rule, never to be departed from, to never breed from a ewe which has ever been ailing, and on no account use a ram which has ever been sick, or shows the slightest symptoms of being delicate.

In the year 1836, I took charge of an estate where there were about 700 sheep, 120 cattle and 40 horses. Strict and correct accounts had been kept for many years, and the annual average loss of sheep had been about 70, or cows 9, and horses none, excepting from accidents. I was a very young man, and took advice from my father, who lived near. His advice was to get rid of every ailing and delicate animal. The first year I sold every cow, heifer and calf that had ever ailed, and the shepherd saw the sheep twice a day, and immediately slaughtered any sheep that showed the slightest perceptible change in any action which looked suspicious of sickness. The animals being at all times good mutton, it was no loss, for the meat was sold among the workmen at a little under the butchers' prices.

This was carried out for 14 years—the time I remained—and the result was that the ailments decreased to less than 20 per year, and the total losses to a few ewes from lambing, which of course could not be utilized. To the same extent, and in like proportion the cows ceased to ail.

Of course there would be accidents, and now and then a milch cow would have the "yellows," but we would not keep her, she would go for beef, but cows are not milked till they are as old as they are in America, and ewes are always drafted out of the flock while they are young enough to make good mutton, and all regular stock farmers keep all their ewe lambs to go into the flock of ewes, so that the oldest ewes can be culled while in their prime. Thus the common farmers, who almost always are tenants of noblemen or great landowners, seldom have any idea of doctoring or physicising sheep, beyond dipping once a year to kill ticks, or using a little butter of antimony to stop any outbreak of foot rot, for at the present day the scab is seldom heard of.

The shepherds have much more annoyance from maggots in July and August than on this continent, for there is a common black beetle in England which is a great pest, blowing just like the fly, and the maggots are very destructive if not detected before gaining full growth. A good shepherd will look out for any damp spot on a sheep, for in close, warm weather there will be many "struck."

Raising Turkeys.

Turkeys delight in warm weather, and for the chicks it can never be too hot. Warm weather and long rambles along the pleasant fields are good for the growing brood. To be profitable, turkeys must make rapid growth, and to do this they should be kept on hearty food, and dry and warm. A turkey hen never leads her brood across the open fields, exposed to the approach of every enemy, but steals cautiously and slowly along, with one eye on the alert for danger, while the pretty little creatures, sleek and downy, prattle and chatter, and look in every out-of-the-way nook or corner for some concealed insect. They are immensely fond of spiders, and from the eagerness with which they search for and devour them, the morsel must be very sweet and good to their taste. When fully grown they will not scruple at swallowing a good sized snake. Turkeys will not bear confinement. Their habit is the free open air and sunny fields. The mother hen always keeps her brood together with a soft, low, cooing sound which they early learn and follow. She generally seeks deep grass and grain fields, wherein the young can hide from the attacks of overhanging hawks. A peculiar sound from the parent hen causes every chick to squat and hide in the tall weeds and grass. They remain thus secreted until assured from her that all danger

and horses none, excepting from accidents. I was a very young man, and took advice from my father, who lived near. His advice was to get rid of every ailing and delicate animal. The first year I sold every cow, heifer and calf that had ever ailed, and the shepherd saw the sheep twice a day, and immediately slaughtered any sheep that showed the slightest perceptible change in any action which looked suspicious of sickness. The animals being at all times good mutton, it was no loss, for the meat was sold among the workmen at a little under the butchers' prices.

This was carried out for 14 years—the time I remained—and the result was that the ailments decreased to less than 20 per year, and the total losses to a few ewes from lambing, which of course could not be utilized. To the same extent, and in like proportion the cows ceased to ail.

Of course there would be accidents, and now and then a milch cow would have the "yellows," but we would not keep her, she would go for beef, but cows are not milked till they are as old as they are in America, and ewes are always drafted out of the flock while they are young enough to make good mutton, and all regular stock farmers keep all their ewe lambs to go into the flock of ewes, so that the oldest ewes can be culled while in their prime. Thus the common farmers, who almost always are tenants of noblemen or great landowners, seldom have any idea of doctoring or physicising sheep, beyond dipping once a year to kill ticks, or using a little butter of antimony to stop any outbreak of foot rot, for at the present day the scab is seldom heard of.

The shepherds have much more annoyance from maggots in July and August than on this continent, for there is a common black beetle in England which is a great pest, blowing just like the fly, and the maggots are very destructive if not detected before gaining full growth. A good shepherd will look out for any damp spot on a sheep, for in close, warm weather there will be many "struck."

Raising Turkeys.

Turkeys delight in warm weather, and for the chicks it can never be too hot. Warm weather and long rambles along the pleasant fields are good for the growing brood. To be profitable, turkeys must make rapid growth, and to do this they should be kept on hearty food, and dry and warm. A turkey hen never leads her brood across the open fields, exposed to the approach of every enemy, but steals cautiously and slowly along, with one eye on the alert for danger, while the pretty little creatures, sleek and downy, prattle and chatter, and look in every out-of-the-way nook or corner for some concealed insect. They are immensely fond of spiders, and from the eagerness with which they search for and devour them, the morsel must be very sweet and good to their taste. When fully grown they will not scruple at swallowing a good sized snake. Turkeys will not bear confinement. Their habit is the free open air and sunny fields. The mother hen always keeps her brood together with a soft, low, cooing sound which they early learn and follow. She generally seeks deep grass and grain fields, wherein the young can hide from the attacks of overhanging hawks. A peculiar sound from the parent hen causes every chick to squat and hide in the tall weeds and grass. They remain thus secreted until assured from her that all danger is over, when the bright little creatures come forth with a happy flutter of glad wings. Turkeys are perhaps the most interesting in their shy, cunning ways, of all our domesticated birds. Their haunts are always pleasant and clean; in fact, turkeys will not thrive at all unless they are kept in a state of comparative cleanliness.

Farmers in general are prejudiced against turkeys. Their roving propensities often lead them into mischief. It is, indeed, annoying to be obliged to put up with the frequent trespasses of a flock of turkeys. They always seek the deepest grass, and trail through, and find the rankest and snadiest grain field. In the early part of the season they do not damage either grass or grain, other than treading it down; but later, when corn and buckwheat kernels have become tempting, I would not care to be answerable for their depredations; still they will not thrive without their run. If on one's own premises, the danger is slight, if on a neighbors, a provocation to anger. The better way is to limit their range, if possible, and train them to certain bounds. We have often observed

that the later broods, that come off after harvest time, thrive much better than the early hatched; that is, they are more apt to live. One turkey hatched the last of May or first of June is worth two hatched in August; has more frame and muscle, and makes altogether a much finer bird.

Frequently June is heralded by cold, beating snow storms, followed by chilling east winds. All young chicks, and turkeys in particular, must be guarded against these vicissitudes. The best way to do this is to provide a building for their occupation that can be warmed by means of a stove, as the spring chicks require a constant watch over them to enable them to pass safely through the gapes. Warm weather, high feed and clean quarters will tide them over this terrible scourge. At three weeks, if kept up in good condition, they are beyond danger; yet a close observer will perhaps note the heavy breathing and hoarse rattling in the throat, which always accompany the gapes, although the bird may give no other indication of the presence of the disease. As long as this slime is loose in the throat, there is no danger, but a sudden cold may tighten it, and then there is no help. While it is loose, and the bird strong, a vigorous sneeze will remove the difficulty; but when once weakened or reduced in strength, there is no hope. I believe, of late years, all the early broods of both chickens and turkeys are afflicted, to a greater or less degree, with this painful malady, for which there is prevention but no cure.

C. B., in Country Gentleman.

Different Kinds of Potatoes.

A correspondent of the American Agriculturist says:—

Last year I planted 13 acres of potatoes of different varieties, including Early Rose, Early Vermont, Snowflake, Brownell's Beauty, Compton's Surprise, Genesee King, Jones, No. 4, and Thorburn's Late Rose; and the Deacon in the adjoining field planted Peachblow, Peerless, and Late Rose. I had a fair crop of Late Rose, but the Peachblow and Peerless were hardly worth digging.

In my field the Late Rose gave the largest yield, but the Early Vermont, on the whole, was the most satisfactory crop. The potatoes were more uniform in size. We had three acres, yielding 126 bushels per acre. The Late Rose had not come to maturity when the drouth and the second crop of bugs struck them, and consequently we had a great many small potatoes. Snowflakes did tolerably well, but not as well as the Vermonts. But it is not worth while talking about the varieties that did well last year. It was an exceptionally bad season. As a rule, the only good potatoes we had were the earliest varieties—and this simply because they had nearly got their growth before they were seriously injured by the drouth and the bugs. The Early Vermont, planted side by side with the Early Rose on the same day, came up earlier and made a more vigorous growth. The plants were stronger, larger, and more robust. I do not attribute this wholly to the variety. The Early Rose has been grown on this farm for several years, without a change of seed. The Vermonts are comparatively new. Had we got Early Rose from a distance, instead of planting our home-grown seed, the plants might have been as vigorous as the Early Vermont.

USEFUL HINTS.—A saddle put on loosely with slack girth is very irritating to a horse, and soon produces a sore back.

A harness kept soft and pliable with neat foot oil will last a lifetime. It is stronger because slightly elastic, and seldom wears off the hair.

A horse left uncovered when not in exercise will soon grow a heavy coat of coarse hair. This becomes a hindrance to rapid motion, and should be prevented by judicious blanketing.

A horse's shoe will hold much longer if the clinches are not weakened by the file in finishing. Insist that the file does not touch the end of the nail where turned down.

Some horses have a habit of stepping on one side of their feet, perhaps to avoid pressure of a hidden corn. That part of the shoe exposed to severe wear should be protected with steel.

All carriage shafts of right construction should allow the body of the animal perfect freedom, and only touch at the well-padded saddle and full collar.

An over-reaching horse, one whose hind feet are frequently hitting the forward shoes, should wear heavy shoes forward and light one behind. The theory is that the heavier hoof will be thrown a little further ahead than the lighter one.

HOW TO BREAK BAULKY HORSES.—Put on your harness and hitch to anything you desire, either single or double, as you feel disposed, and give him the commanding word to go ahead.

Different Kinds of Potatoes.

A correspondent of the American Agriculturist says:—

Last year I planted 13 acres of potatoes of different varieties, including Early Rose, Early Vermont, Snowflake, Brownell's Beauty, Compton's Surprise, Genesee King, Jones, No. 4, and Thorburn's Late Rose; and the Deacon in the adjoining field planted Peachblow, Peerless, and Late Rose. I had a fair crop of Late Rose, but the Peachblow and Peerless were hardly worth digging.

In my field the Late Rose gave the largest yield, but the Early Vermont, on the whole, was the most satisfactory crop. The potatoes were more uniform in size. We had three acres, yielding 126 bushels per acre. The Late Rose had not come to maturity when the drouth and the second crop of bugs struck them, and consequently we had a great many small potatoes. Snowflakes did tolerably well, but not as well as the Vermonts. But it is not worth while talking about the varieties that did well last year. It was an exceptionally bad season. As a rule, the only good potatoes we had were the earliest varieties—and this simply because they had nearly got their growth before they were seriously injured by the drouth and the bugs. The Early Vermont, planted side by side with the Early Rose on the same day, came up earlier and made a more vigorous growth. The plants were stronger, larger, and more robust. I do not attribute this wholly to the variety. The Early Rose has been grown on this farm for several years, without a change of seed. The Vermonts are comparatively new. Had we got Early Rose from a distance, instead of planting our home-grown seed, the plants might have been as vigorous as the Early Vermont.

USEFUL HINTS.—A saddle put on loosely with slack girth is very irritating to a horse, and soon produces a sore back.

A harness kept soft and pliable with neat foot oil will last a lifetime. It is stronger because slightly elastic, and seldom wears off the hair.

A horse left uncovered when not in exercise will soon grow a heavy coat of coarse hair. This becomes a hindrance to rapid motion, and should be prevented by judicious blanketing.

A horse's shoe will hold much longer if the clinches are not weakened by the file in finishing. Insist that the file does not touch the end of the nail where turned down.

Some horses have a habit of stepping on one side of their feet, perhaps to avoid pressure of a hidden corn. That part of the shoe exposed to severe wear should be protected with steel.

All carriage shafts of right construction should allow the body of the animal perfect freedom, and only touch at the well-padded saddle and full collar.

An over-reaching horse, one whose hind feet are frequently hitting the forward shoes, should wear heavy shoes forward and light one behind. The theory is that the heavier hoof will be thrown a little further ahead than the lighter one.

HOW TO BREAK BAULKY HORSES.—Put on your harness and hitch to anything you desire, either single or double, as you feel disposed, and give him the commanding word to go ahead. If he goes you have nothing to do or say, but if he refuses to go, take him out immediately, take all the harness off except the bridle, and take a small rope the sixth of a plough line, and tie one end to the bit on the right hand side, and pull it through the ring of the left under the chop, pull his head around to the left side, and slip the rope under his tail like a crupper and make it fast, keeping his head tolerably close to his side. Now all is ready, so let him go, talking kindly to him all the time. He will travel like a dog after his tail, for he can travel no other way, but after a spell he will fall down, when you will immediately let loose the rope and let him up; now talk kindly to him and caress him. Your work is now half done, for you have only to tie the rope to the other side of the bit and pull his head around the other way and make it fast like a crupper, the same as before, and start him off again, and let him go till he fall a second time; let him up immediately and hitch him up, and you will probably never have any more trouble with him.—Kentucky Home Journal.

C. B., in Country Gentleman.

that will make one. "We will work and economize. I will never have it said that Annie Derman ruined John Flaxman for an artist."

And so the brave couple did work and economize. They worked patiently and hopefully for five years, never asked help from any one, never mentioned their intentions to any one, and at last went together to Rome, where Flaxman studied and worked to such purpose that he achieved both fame and competency. His success was not shared to the full, however, by the faithful wife, for she died many years before him.

Thos. Hood gave a touching tribute to his wife's excellence:—

"I never was anything till I knew you, and I have been a better, happier, and more prosperous man ever since. Whatever may befall me, the wife of my bosom will have the acknowledgment of her tenderness, work and excellence from my pen."

Many other instances might be enumerated; but we have touched upon sufficient to prove that a good wife is God's best gift to man.

Thos. Hood gave a touching tribute to his wife's excellence:—

"I never was anything till I knew you, and I have been a better, happier, and more prosperous man ever since. Whatever may befall me, the wife of my bosom will have the acknowledgment of her tenderness, work and excellence from my pen."

Many other instances might be enumerated; but we have touched upon sufficient to prove that a good wife is God's best gift to man.

Thos. Hood gave a touching tribute to his wife's excellence:—

"I never was anything till I knew you, and I have been a better, happier, and more prosperous man ever since. Whatever may befall me, the wife of my bosom will have the acknowledgment of her tenderness, work and excellence from my pen."

Many other instances might be enumerated; but we have touched upon sufficient to prove that a good wife is God's best gift to man.

Thos. Hood gave a touching tribute to his wife's excellence:—

"I never was anything till I knew you, and I have been a better, happier, and more prosperous man ever since. Whatever may befall me, the wife of my bosom will have the acknowledgment of her tenderness, work and excellence from my pen."

Many other instances might be enumerated; but we have touched upon sufficient to prove that a good wife is God's best gift to man.

Thos. Hood gave a touching tribute to his wife's excellence:—

"I never was anything till I knew you, and I have been a better, happier, and more prosperous man ever since. Whatever may befall me, the wife of my bosom will have the acknowledgment of her tenderness, work and excellence from my pen."

Many other instances might be enumerated; but we have touched upon sufficient to prove that a good wife is God's best gift to man.

Thos. Hood gave a touching tribute to his wife's excellence:—

"I never was anything till I knew you, and I have been a better, happier, and more prosperous man ever since. Whatever may befall me, the wife of my bosom will have the acknowledgment of her tenderness, work and excellence from my pen."

Many other instances might be enumerated; but we have touched upon sufficient to prove that a good wife is God's best gift to man.

Thos. Hood gave a touching tribute to his wife's excellence:—

"I never was anything till I knew you, and I have been a better, happier, and more prosperous man ever since. Whatever may befall me, the wife of my bosom will have the acknowledgment of her tenderness, work and excellence from my pen."

Many other instances might be enumerated; but we have touched upon sufficient to prove that a good wife is God's best gift to man.

Thos. Hood gave a touching tribute to his wife's excellence:—

"I never was anything till I knew you, and I have been a better, happier, and more prosperous man ever since. Whatever may befall me, the wife of my bosom will have the acknowledgment of her tenderness, work and excellence from my pen."

Many other instances might be enumerated; but we have touched upon sufficient to prove that a good wife is God's best gift to man.

Thos. Hood gave a touching tribute to his wife's excellence:—

"I never was anything till I knew you, and I have been a better, happier, and more prosperous man ever since. Whatever may befall me, the wife of my bosom will have the acknowledgment of her tenderness, work and excellence from my pen."

Many other instances might be enumerated; but we have touched upon sufficient to prove that a good wife is God's best gift to man.

Thos. Hood gave a touching tribute to his wife's excellence:—

"I never was anything till I knew you, and I have been a better, happier, and more prosperous man ever since. Whatever may befall me, the wife of my bosom will have the acknowledgment of her tenderness, work and excellence from my pen."

Many other instances might be enumerated; but we have touched upon sufficient to prove that a good wife is God's best gift to man.

Thos. Hood gave a touching tribute to his wife's excellence:—

"I never was anything till I knew you, and I have been a better, happier, and more prosperous man ever since. Whatever may befall me, the wife of my bosom will have the acknowledgment of her tenderness, work and excellence from my pen."

Many other instances might be enumerated; but we have touched upon sufficient to prove that a good wife is God's best gift to man.

Thos. Hood gave a touching tribute to his wife's excellence:—

"I never was anything till I knew you, and I have been a better, happier, and more prosperous man ever since. Whatever may befall me, the wife of my bosom will have the acknowledgment of her tenderness, work and excellence from my pen."

Many other instances might be enumerated; but we have touched upon sufficient to prove that a good wife is God's best gift to man.

Thos. Hood gave a touching tribute to his wife's excellence:—