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## Editorial.

### Farming as a Business.

It is said there is no such word as fail in the vocabulary of the earnest persistent man. No matter what his occupation may be, no matter how many difficulties he may have to surmount—his determination to succeed ultimately makes him a conqueror. The love of a profession or calling, is a great stimulus to action. Without this, any sort of business we follow is like a dead weight, from which we perhaps are continually, yet hopelessly, endeavoring to escape. The mind is divided between what we are trying to do, and what we wish to do, and between the two stools, so to speak, we succeed in coming to the ground. Farming as a pursuit, requires that, in addition to its being the choice above all other occupations, that to successfully prosecute it, there must be brought to bear a good judgment and good common sense. Few positions require so much general knowledge. This idea may surprise many, but think for a moment of the many things a farmer must know. There is the nature of the soil to be understood, of which his farm is composed, and where there is a deficiency in certain properties, how best to remedy them, and adapt the land to the wants of the crop he proposes to produce. The methods of culture to which each particular crop should be subjected to give the best results. Then there comes the raising and care of stock, which is a study in itself. These are among the many other subjects which enter into the every day life of the farmer, and though occupying but a few weeks to set them forth, require much hard thinking and much time and labor to accomplish.

To get away from the old beaten track, requires even in these days, some special effort. It is so much easier to follow the practice of others, that it is frequently with some degree of shrinking that one sets out with a determination to hew out an entirely different road for himself. Improvement should of course be the farmer's watchword. He should take note of the successes as well as failures of his neighbors. He should endeavor to plan, if only in imagination, the sort of farm which in his judgment would be the nearest perfect to his own, and then try to bring his farm up to his ideal, but it is not every one that can muster up the courage to undertake it.

We hear some old farmer say,—"How easy it is to write about these things, and how little to do them." This is a very true statement, and is comprehended in what they say. This is granted; but the question may be asked—"From whence have come the advancements that have been made in Agriculture, if not from now and then some one more enterprising than his neighbor—some one whose thinking and reasoning powers, have become more than ordinarily developed, from a practice of looking into the why and wherefore of every thing, and bringing the same principles to bear upon the every day concerns of life, thus lifting themselves out of the rut in which their fathers and grandfathers were content to move along from day to day? To such practical go-ahead men—men who read, and with the knowledge thus obtained combined with indomitable perseverance, and faith in the object of their ambition, is the world largely indebted for the high and important position of Agriculture today.

We have said that the farmer needs to have a good general knowledge to fit him for his business, and we might add, to render him a useful member of his community. However difficult it may have been a generation or two past, we all know that in the present age, there are abundance of newspapers easily accessible—agricultural and political—so that every excuse for ignorance of all matters of public interest as well as regards matters affecting the farmer's personal interest, are removed. We are surrounded with books and newspapers; every rail, every steamer; almost every private conveyance, carries more or less of them, in every direction over the land, and thus the means of acquiring knowledge in respect to farming as a business is within the reach of all, if they will but put out their hands and take it. A great many persons, who of course know no better, think that any one can be a farmer whether he knows much or little—whether he has or has not an education. Any one, they think, can plough or dig a piece of land and plant or sow it. So they can, if they have brute force enough in them to accomplish that much. But it needs more. There is a vast difference in the fields, and the results which are worked out, between the man who intelligently

cultivates his land, and the man who tumbles, as to speak, his crop into the ground, without knowing whether the soil is or is not adapted to the crop to be grown. The one has faith and confidence in his operation, and feels assured, all other things being equal, of a good crop. The other hopes for the best, but feels that it is all chance work, and if asked, could not give a satisfactory reason for his expecting an average return for his labor. There are few professions or callings that need a better knowledge of matters and things in general, or require more sound judgment, discretion, and good sense than the pursuit of farming, and nothing short of these qualities can ensure success.

## Miscellaneous.

### MULCHING.

This subject, which is gaining additional prominence every year, owes much of its popularity to the abuse of its application. I have in my mind's eye an instance that illustrates the damage done in the system, simply by employing workmen who were not conversant with the principles involved. What could ever induce a rational being to cover the surface of an orchard two feet deep with straw, more than the majority of fruit growers could possibly guess, and yet such was the fact. Of course it injured the trees, scorched the soil and made a capital home for all manner of injurious insects, besides whole villages of mice. The advantages to be derived from the use of mulching material may be summed up somewhat as follows:

First, the desire to keep the soil moderately moist and cool. Secondly, to prevent the surface from baking hard through the combined influence of the rays of the sun and the high winds. Thirdly, as a preventive of weeds. For newly-planted trees all of these are necessities; the mulch preserves the surface moist and cool, and this is precisely the condition under which young trees are formed. It keeps the soil open and porous, and other *quid pro quo* for the formation and growth of young roots. That it smothered out the numerous weeds that would invariably start were the surface not protected, is a self-evident fact.

In the three or four seasons past, we in the Middle States have suffered terribly from the severity of the drought; and had it not been for the beneficial effects of mulching, in many instances the losses would have been frightful. Mulching, as it may be termed, water applied as we will do, not answer the purpose altogether. We need something more; shade is absolutely essential, together with an equable temperature. Nature sets us an example in this respect in the fall of snow. It is not to much the moisture contained in the covering that falls so lightly and covers up our plants so evenly; not at all. It is the adequate protection afforded the roots, and the fact that there is no encroaching weather may be, there are preserved cool and unchangeable so long as the snow shall last. I know not of a more beautiful illustration in horticulture than this lesson that nature vouchsafes to teach us.

The material that should compose our mulch differs with the plants to be protected, as well as with the season when it is applied. We may rest satisfied, however, that all green or unfertilized substances are deleterious in their nature, and not infrequently do more harm than good. We occasionally hear of instances, however, where such have been used with good effect, as, for example, the use of turnip tips for mulching strawberry beds, still the principle is bad and should be discouraged. Heat and moisture engender decomposition in green vegetable tissue, and the heat consequent upon rapid decomposition is very injurious to plant life, when placed in immediate juxtaposition therewith. It calls into active life innumerable forms of fungoid structure, many of which are the forerunners of disease, and all are deleterious in the effect upon the health of the higher orders of vegetation. It forms a proper hot-bed for the propagation and dissemination of millions of insects, the greater portion of which damage the roots and bark of our trees and plants. And, lastly, it imparts a sour and acidulous character to the soil beneath, which must affect the well-being of the plant.

What are the best materials to be used is not so easily answered, although there are some things like spent tan-bark that seem really adapted to almost all manner of plants. The healthier pear trees I ever saw were kept constantly mulched with a good thick coat of this, and each autumn a slight sprinkling of well

rotted manure was scattered over the surface. Tan-bark is applicable to most kinds of growing plants, from the largest orchard trees to the strawberry beds in the garden. Straw, not too long, and pliable, cannot well be excelled. It is clean and affords a pleasant shade devoid of any deleterious effects. Hay I do not like, unless very coarse, and green grass kills more than it cures. Manure should never be used in a fresh state, although such is occasionally resorted to around large trees.

Plants in pots, that is, the ordinary varieties usually grown for this purpose, including roses, are greatly benefited by the slight mulch of old hot-bed manure. And comfits, too, show the effect of this fertilizing covering by an increased color and a more vigorous growth. Bright straw is after all the best covering for winter vegetables, such as spinach, lettuce, cabbage, &c. Leaves are excellent for most things, but not around young evergreens. I have seen whole beds of these entirely destroyed by the compact mass which leaves form by spring, and thus preventing a free circulation of air, kill the plants in many instances. The subject may be summed up in a few words. After planting, most forms of vegetable growth are benefited by mulching; during dry seasons everything enjoys it to a moderate extent. The number of trees and plants that have been saved by the process is beyond our calculation; more than why not apply the remedy more extensively.—J. H. in N. Y. Tribune.

### Canadian Horses at the Centennial.

The exhibition of horses at the Centennial opened on the 4th inst. The New York Times, in speaking of the show, says it "is the largest and the most important, except so far as concerns the exhibits from Canada, the residents of that country being the only persons outside of the United States who have made an entry direct. Of course there are a number of horses from abroad, but they are owned by residents of this country, who pride themselves on owning such famous stock. The contest for the prizes on all kinds of stock, is therefore, narrowed down to the United States and Canada, with the odds decidedly in favor of Canada and her heavy draught horses. The greatest interest in the exhibition, except to the professional horsemen, will centre, no doubt, in the draught horse, and the breeding stallions. In this particular the United States make a good showing, but I fear it is far outstripped by Canada, especially in point of numbers. With very few exceptions the animals across the border are larger-limbed than the Americans, this feature extending even to coach horses and driving animals. The greatest in weight in this department is a Clydesdale stallion named Donald Dinnie, standing seventeen hands high, and weighing 2,260 pounds. This animal only reached this country last month. Just here it is quite appropriate to mention the tall mare, the Queen of Egypt, twenty-one and a half hands high, weighing 2,200 pounds. Out of some 80 horses which Canada has entered, the most noticeable are the exhibit Royal Tom, who is owned by William Long, of Lansing, Ontario. He has won 18 prizes in England, including the great Yorkshire prize for immensity, weighing nearly 2,300. The general contour of the animal is such as to attract attention, notwithstanding there were dozens of the same sort, and some nearly as large in the arena. The only trotter from Canada is Royal Harry, a five year old stallion, by imported Saladin. A high-bred coach stallion is exhibited in British Splendor by Andrew Somerville, of Huntington, near Quebec. He is somewhat heavier in frame than is generally used in this country. In the list of matched teams which Canada exhibits are some that seem as if they could carry off half a small town if they were only made fast to it. Taking the exhibit of horses all through we may be somewhat disappointed, for the number does not reach 250 in all, but those that are here are the choicest that can be produced, so that in a measure atones for the lack of numbers. As it stands now the United States will undoubtedly reap the prizes for high-bred and carriage animals, while Canada will carry over the border the prizes for heavy draught, agricultural, and coach horses.

### Fruit for Food.

Dr. L. M. Holbrook a good while ago in speaking of food said: There is one other value in fruit which I can not pass over in this connection with our notice. One of the common diseases of children is worms in the bowels. If a child's digestion becomes impaired, and the gastric juice becomes weakened or defective in quality by overeating or bad food, the whole alimentary canal becomes clogged up and filthy, and furnishes nests for such worms as will breed there. Now it is an interesting fact that fresh ripe fruit is the best preventive for this state of things. Dr. Benjamin Rush pointed this out a hundred years ago. He made a series of experiments on worms, which he regarded as more nearly allied to those that infest the bowels of children than any other, with a view to test their power of retaining life under the influence of various substances that might be used as worm medicines. The result proved that worms often live longer on these substances known as poisons than in some of the most harmless articles of food. For instance, in watery solutions of opium they live eleven minutes; in infusion of pink root, thirty-three minutes; in claret wine ten minutes; but in the juice of red cherries they died in five minutes; and currants, in three minutes; gooseberries, in four minutes; whortleberries in seven minutes; and raspberries in five minutes.

From these experiments Dr. Rush argued that fresh, ripe fruit, of which children are very fond, are the most speedy and effective poisons for worms. In practice this theory has proved correct. If we eat and drink hot and exciting materials, the blood becomes inflamed, the nerves exasperated, and the brain sends out thoughts that are bad and mean. If we would do away with those foods that only inflame the passion, and substitute more fruit in their place, we would need less restraint on wrong doings, for our bodies would be clearer, our blood cooler, our nerves steadier, our impulses more subject to reason, and life would be a hundred per cent. truer and better than it is today.—Sci.

### Sheep in the Fall.

Old, experienced sheep men will not need the advice which follows, unless they have gone through life with their eyes shut; but young farmers, who are not yet too old to learn, may profit by it. Keep your sheep in good condition during the fall, and after killing feeds some and wither the pasture has been good, they will now be in good condition, generally, and the owner must keep them there if he would profit by the business of sheep raising. I know by experience, that after killing feeds some and wither the grass, sheep will decline unless fed a little something extra. The grass, after frost, is not nearly as nutritious as before. Give a little grain once a day, feed pumpkins, turnips, or any other green food as a feed. Anything to keep up the growing thriving state all sheep should be in at the close of the vegetable season. I cannot impress this point too closely. Sheep must be kept during the fall months, in the best of the commonwealth. They are to winter well and easily, and become a source of profit to the owner. Especially does this advice apply to breeding ewes. If they are permitted to run down until they are coupled with the ram, they are hard to serve, and not by any means easy. Then the progeny are, evidently, greatly influenced by the condition of the ewe at the succeeding impregnation. Every careful sheep owner will adopt such methods as will improve his flock. Some men will spare no expense in procuring a ram, but at the same time pay no attention to improvement through the ewes. One is just as important as the other. Indeed, I prefer the sheep reared by a careful man who keeps them at all seasons in the most vigorous condition, even though the blood on the male side may be inferior.

Sheep do not pay now unless they are good. Poor sheep are a loss any time, and especially at this time. Common sense prompts every man, then, to call his flock. Take out the poor, the maimed, the halt, and the blind, and Sparta-like, sacrifice them to the good of the commonwealth. These that from some cause or other have dropped back a little in condition, should be separated from the flock and special care given them. Dispose in some way of all that are not worth taking special pains with, and thus have your flock at the beginning of winter, composed only of the best, and in the best possible condition. Take the word of an old sheep man, who assures you that the next crop of wool and lambs will fully demonstrate the wisdom of such a course.—Ohio Farmer.

## Sugar Beets for Milk Cows.

Just looking over the article in your issue of January 1st, under the head of "Dairy of a Ruralist," I find that you complain of the shrinking of at least 50 per cent. in the quality of his cow's milk from feeding her sugar beets, and then asks, "Are they good feed for milk cows?" For myself, I will answer, unhesitatingly, yes, better to produce an abundant flow of rich milk than any root I have ever fed, except parsnips; and especially far superior to turnips, being exactly the reverse of his experiment in feeding. I am satisfied something else is to blame in this other than the beets; for whenever, for upwards of 30 years past, I have invariably cultivated the sugar beet and fed it largely to all sorts of my domestic animals, with the exception of hard working horses, both raw and cooked, and have ever found it highly beneficial for them.

No longer ago than last November, our family cow began to shrink somewhat in her milk, when we were feeding her with an additional meal night and morning of Indian meal and wheat bran half and half, with a pint of oil meal. I then directed most of this change of food she began to increase her milk, and in a few days gave the same quantity that she had done previously when on pasture, and before being put up in the stable on hay and milk feed.

Sugar beets must necessarily be superior feed to all domestic animals, and especially to such as are giving milk, for they abound in saccharine juice, and to show their value for feeding purposes as well as for making sugar, I will refer to several analyses recently made of them in England, reported on pages 24 and 25 of the London Agricultural Gazette, of Jan. 3rd. These give a trifling 7 to 14 per cent. of solid matter. In our dry and hot climate, I should suppose the average percentage of sugar and solid matter would be increased in the beet crop; but this would depend much on the size of roots and the soil where grown. To produce roots of the best quality, they ought not to be grown in too rich a soil, like that of the constant roots of the pig, but in a poor soil, and to be still more important, probably, they ought to be grown standing so closely together in rows as not to exceed 5 or 6 lbs. in weight each. I prefer them even less than this, say 4 to 5 lbs. on the average. I would not give a dime per bushel for great, overgrown roots weighing from 15 to 20 lbs. each.

I have occasionally grown detached roots of this weight, and for each feeling found them little better than white oak chips. In fact, neither my pigs, sheep nor cattle would touch them cut up raw and placed before them, so long as they could find anything else decent to eat, while roots of a proper size they would devour with avidity, and grow fat or give great masses of milk from them.

I would suggest to "A Ruralist" to try sugar beet feeding again to his cow, but in so doing supervise the thing himself, and not trust to any one else, as I have found that my man John, as well as Jack and Bill, occasionally made mistakes in one way or another.—Cor. Rural New Yorker.

### Effect of Salt on Wheat.

In an interesting series of experiments recently made on the farm of the Royal Agricultural Society of England the material value of salt was unmistakably indicated. An acre of wheat dressed with three hundred pounds of common salt yielded thirty-nine bushels of grain, with proportionate amount of straw, while an adjoining acre, left unmanured, produced only twenty-nine bushels per acre, with the straw imperfectly developed, showing an increase of ten bushels per acre. The extra cost of the crop is not stated, but this experiment shows that the additional ten bushels resulting from the salt were produced at a cost of thirty cents each.

In another case a piece of ground intended where wheat was sown preceding fall, and again in May, when it was sown with salt, and afterwards plowed before seeding. On the 1st and 2nd of September wheat was sown at the rate of two bushels to the acre. The crop, when harvested, yielded, according to the estimate of the owner, Mr. John Park, not less than forty bushels of grain to the acre, with a luxuriant growth of straw. From these and many similar cases the inference seems to be that salt is as specific for the best wheat as it is for the grain and firmness to the straw.

## Making Butter.

Frequently butter is quoted at a low figure, and this was particularly the case during last summer. It ranged from fourteen to sixteen cents a pound in the market, and there was sometimes difficulty in disposing of it at these prices. All this time a few individuals were receiving twenty cents a pound for all they could furnish. When butter sold in market at eighteen and twenty cents, these persons realized twenty-two and twenty-three cents a pound. Now for the reason. A large proportion of the butter offered in the market was poor; that sold by the persons referred to was excellent. The market butter might have been as good had the same care and labor been bestowed upon it, but that was not the case. It was, as a rule, hurried up, and little labor bestowed upon it. A close observer would discover that much of it was not half worked; in some instances the buttermilk could be seen coming out, and trickling down into the jar or tub. To make it as good as butter should be, needed but a little more labor, but that was too much trouble, so that when the dealer looked in, he mentally put a price on it, and subsequently offered fifteen or sixteen cents, which was about all it was worth. Now the secret of making good butter is to put labor upon it. In addition to proper care of the cream and cleanliness of the creamer, getting the cream with a good mouth and manner. Should the cream unfortunately throw the breaker and learn wicked ways, he will try to do ditto again if he has the least opportunity. A man that rides a young horse should always be on his guard. When the horse is first saddled run him up and down the yard till he gets used to the saddle. By adopting this method, and keeping your heels from touching him when first mounted till he settles down, many a fall and accident may be avoided.—Ez.

One of the most important things for breeders of fine stock poultry, is to pick out their young birds that are in any way defective, and to keep only the best specimens. It is trying work for amateurs to kill off any of their young birds, but if they cannot otherwise dispose of it, it must be done. This is work that few amateurs will do thoroughly until experience teaches them the great necessity of such a duty. There is always a large percentage of young stock of all breeds that do not come up to the desired standard; although in the hands of experienced breeders it is less than it would be otherwise, and when a particular strain is worked for, many have to make way for their more favored companions. But let not the amateur breeder be discouraged; the killing of a few of the defective birds makes more room for those that are left and gives them a better chance in the battle of life. It is well to be sure to make the selection yourself. If done by proxy, perhaps the wrong heads may come off.

### Selecting Young Poultry.

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VENTILATE THE CELLAR.—In building, one or more of the chimneys should be so arranged that a fine may be used for ventilating the cellar. If windows alone be depended upon, they will probably be closed and sealed by the banking outside in the coldest weather. A cellar should have both an outside and inside entrance. It is about equally unimportant for a housekeeper to have all the vegetables and meat brought in through the house for winter storage, or to be obliged to run out of doors in all weathers to reach her cellar by an outside door. The cellar should be made so tight and carefully protected in every part that rats and mice can find no entrance. Drains must be protected at the outer end by copper casing, and the windows by wire netting in summer, so that the whole cellar may serve as a clean cool safe for milk and other food. A housekeeper who has a good cellar, has reason to be thankful for one great comfort, and she can not show her gratitude by taking the best possible care of it, letting nothing be left there to decay, and having it well cleaned as often as the case demands, which is at least every spring, very thoroughly, boxes, barrels, and all.

A curious case of "hereditary birthmarks" is reported from Kentucky. For several generations the ancestors of Mr. Alfred McCrackin of Spencer county, have marked their legs with a cross and slit in the ear. The same stock has remained in the family through the lapse of all these years, and now the ear marks appear at the birth of the pigling belonging to Mr. McCrackin. This saves him the trouble of remarking his hogs. This is one of those stories which are so often found floating in the papers, and which require confirmation before putting much confidence in the statements.

TO MAKE GOOD SOAP.—Take five pounds of soda-ash and dissolve it in three gallons of water by boiling, two and a half pounds of white lime, slack it with boiling water; when the soda-ash comes to a boil, pour it over the lime, stir it well, and let it settle, and let it boil. Pour more boiling water over the lime, take the clear water, add it to the grease in your boiler until you have ten gallons. Boil four hours. Put it into tubs until cold, then cut into bars according to convenience. To make soft-soap, double the quantity of water. A person who has experienced in soap making, that in her opinion, from actual trial, the addition of three quarters of a pound of borax to one pound of soap, melted without boiling, makes a saved without the loss of soap and the four-fifths the labor of washing. It also improves the whiteness of the fabric, and takes away or prevents the usual stiff and rough feeling which the use of common soap imparts to the hands.

## Breaking Colts.

Colts are better taught to lead as soon as taken from the mare, and their legs and feet handled. If they happened to meet with any accident, unless they have been haltered and led, they are very bad to manage. Young horses, like children, require kindness and firmness. The more quietly you move about them the better. Numbers of horses are spoiled by ill-treatment. Horses know the person who behaves ill to them, and most of them when young will, after ill-treatment, give a parting salute when they have the opportunity. I always look straight at the eye of a horse when I go up to him. If he drops his ears back, I give a quick glance, I speak to him, which draws off his attention from kicking. If a man walks boldly up to a horse, he will seldom lash out. Rarely's success was due to his nerve, and knowing the proper tackle to put on a horse. At two years of age a young horse had better be mottled and carefully handled a few weeks before turning out to pasture. At three years he should be broken,—a most critical time. Much depends on the proper treatment, getting the horse with a good mouth and manner. Should the horse unfortunately throw the breaker and learn wicked ways, he will try to do ditto again if he has the least opportunity. A man that rides a young horse should always be on his guard. When the horse is first saddled run him up and down the yard till he gets used to the saddle. By adopting this method, and keeping your heels from touching him when first mounted till he settles down, many a fall and accident may be avoided.—Ez.

### How Long Can Land be Plowed.

At one time it was conceded that the fall plowing should all be finished up in this State by the first of November. Now as a general rule the land can be plowed as late as the 20th of that month, but it is best to get all the land plowed possibly before the heavy frosts will prevent the seed in the land from sprouting. That all land intended for wheat, oats, potatoes, and in fact anything except corn, should be plowed in the fall of the year, no one will dispute. The farmer of this State, have plenty of time to plow in the fall of the year to plow, after their wheat and oat crops are removed.—Ding's Journal.

### STUT IN WHEAT.—A scientific Frenchman who has made the subject of life-long study, says it is owing to the presence of parasitical animals, called, not unlike the tiny seeds that vinegar produces, and which exist in the small ball, as whitish filaments. Although dryness extends the life of them, worms immediately begin to live on being plowed into water. The humidity of the soil effects the same change. When the sown grain germinates, the larvae of the deceased worm, from twelve to fifteen hatched, as many thousands being found in a single grain of wheat. The worm larvae remains in a desiccated state till the following season, and may be dried and restored to life several times with impunity. In France, when such grain is sowed, it is roasted in an oven, and given to fowls. Steeping the seed in solutions of arsenic, or blue vitriol, or ammonia, kills the parasite effectually. Placing the seed in twenty-four hours in the solution of one part of vitriol, and one hundred and fifty of water, is a favorite remedy.

Without an agricultural paper, the farmer is confined chiefly to his own limited experience. He cannot profit by the experience of the world at large, for he knows not what is going on in his own profession, even. A good agricultural paper may be compared to a sea that gathers waters from a thousand tributaries. So an agricultural paper gathers knowledge, experience, wisdom, from hundreds of intelligent, practical correspondents, and from other agricultural papers, and thus furnishes an excellent source of information to the farmer. Hence, every farmer who follows farming for a livelihood, ought to take an agricultural paper, that he may avail himself of the valued experience it contains of others in his own profession.

While waggons and carts are dry, they should be painted, or if that is inconvenient at this season, they should be put under cover when not in use, until they can be painted. A carriage should not be kept so near a stable that the pungent fumes of ammonia can reach the varnish. These deaden the varnish, and in time cause it to peel off; then the carriage body is liable to rot for that which he is not prepared to replace.

Man has wrung the chicken's neck with impunity for hundreds of years, but Nemesis has come at last in the form of a very old hen at Pains Hill House, near Colman, England. A loaded gun had been laid on the top of a cornbin in a stable. The old hen flew up, perched upon the trigger, and brought down a farm hand who was at work in the stable. The avenger aimed too high. An eye was lost, but not a life.

The English Mechanic, a London paper, says the importation of fresh meat from the United States is an established success. It has been carried on throughout the hot weather, the most reaching this country in good condition, and selling well; in fact, most of it goes into the Western districts. On one day in the middle of August no fewer than 1300 quarters were sold.

In Oxford, Conn., during the past year, and mostly since the 10th of April, 100 sheep have been killed by dogs, for 150 of which the town has paid \$755.50.

T. B. Wheeler, Waterford, Vt., exhibited a Jersey cow at the California county fair, from which he says he made twenty-one pounds of butter in one week, and milked eighty pounds of milk in one day.

Forty-two departments of France report the grain harvest this year as excellent thirty-nine as middling, and five as poor.











