

RAISING SHROPSHIRE.

Methods Adopted by a Successful Illinois Sheep Raiser.

Having made the purchase, the first thing to be done on reaching home is to sort over the bunch and divide them into lots, each flock being composed of animals of the same size and age as near as possible.

When they are fully accustomed to the green feed I then commence with grain in the same way, preferring corn, and allowing about one peck to each hundred head the first day and increasing gradually until the sheep are on full feed.

I find that the sheep fatten rapidly on good wheat or mill screenings fed twice a day, giving them as soon as accustomed to it as much as they will eat up clean.

I might add also that the very first thing which is done to the sheep on reaching the farm is to give them a thorough dipping in tobacco juice.

The whole question of profitable sheep feeding is, in my mind, summed up in a very few words—regularity in size, regularity in age, regularity in hours of feeding and an entire absence of disturbing influences.

Cost of Wintering Stock.

Every farmer should in fall as well as in spring take account of his live stock. If he does this systematically every year he will be less likely to winter over what next spring's returns will show has not paid the cost of keeping.

On the farm there is only feed and barn room for a certain amount of stock. The question for each farmer should be: "Is this stock I now have the kind that I best understand and can make most money from?"

Size in Hackneys.

So far as we have seen, size in the hackney is what has to be specially studied during the next few years. With the hackney we have no measure of capacity, borrowed from horse racing, and we know Yorkshire cobs which would carry a twenty stone grazier twenty miles out and home.

Live Stock Points.

No ill natured man should ever undertake to raise live stock of any kind. He can't even become a successful goose breeder.

It sounds queer, indeed, to inhabitants of the older states that squirrels, which in their markets sell for high game prices, are such a pest in California that a writer proposes to farmers to settle on a "squirrel week" during which they shall feed poisoned wheat to all these animals within reach.

The use of the incubator has enabled poultrymen to market ducks and chickens by the ton. The price of poultry in the cities, however, has not fallen off correspondingly, though the quality of the bird has in many cases.

In rearing ducks allow one drake to five ducks.

The poorest display at the New York horse show was in the thoroughbred stallion class. The owners of this valuable live stock do not like to risk shipping it and leaving it in a strange city show building for over a week.

Bees are more apt to sting ill tempered people than good natured ones.

PAYING A DEBT OF KINDNESS.

An Indian Brave Who Never Forgot the Mercy Shown His Hand.

About the middle of this century there was a terrible uprising among the Yucatan Indians. For a time they were able to wreak vengeance on their white conquerors, and their ferocity and cruelty were horrible.

"What are you doing?" he asked. "I am eating my shoes, as you see," was the reply. "I am starving to death. For twelve days we have had almost no food. Most of my companions are dead and the days of the rest are numbered."

The head of the band, however, stationed sentinels around the house and gave this order: "No hair of the head of this man or his family is to be touched on pain of death."

The family of Duarte was the only one that was spared. The Indian who had inspired the pity of Don Marcos was paying his debt.

Twenty years afterward in a successful uprising the Indians sacked a number of villages and country houses. They retreated loaded with spoil and dragging with them many household servants, of whom they intended to make slaves.

"Don Marcos Duarte," he replied. "The chief immediately called a halt. 'How many men belong to Don Marcos?' he asked.

"Twenty-four," replied the man to whom he had spoken.

"Name them," said the chief. Having collected the twenty-four men, he returned to them the spoil which had come from the Duarte house and said: "Go home, friends, you are free."

Why She Reads the Last Chapter First.

"Of course I always read the last chapter of a novel first," admitted a young woman, "and I think it a very sensible plan. But I read such books in two different ways. I confess I read some trash. When I get a novel that I consider in this class I read the last chapter first. Then I read the next to the last chapter, and so on until I finish the first chapter. I find that the only way in which to enjoy such books is to read it straight through from the beginning I would never be in doubt as to the ending. I have read so much of this light literature that I can always tell pretty well what the outcome of it will be.

"On the other hand, if I begin at the end my curiosity is aroused to a lively pitch. Here I have the unraveling of misunderstandings and the restoration to happiness of all the worthy people in the book. But I cannot tell how the doubts and differences came about. One can anticipate the close of such a novel near its beginning, but not its beginning near its close. So I read the chapters in reversed order with continued pleasure."

Only a Score of White Rhinoceroses.

From a letter addressed to that renowned sportsman, Mr. Selous, it appears that that curious and rare animal, the white rhinoceros, has not yet gone the way of the dodo and the great bustard, though some have ventured to give Mr. Selous' authority for saying that he is extinct. It is to the occupation of northern Mashonaland, which has kept the native hunters to the west of the Umwati river, that this gentleman attributes the fact that in this part a few specimens still survive the constant persecution which in less than twenty years has utterly exterminated them in every other portion of south central Africa.

Where Crocodiles Are Found.

Crocodiles are found in Africa, Asia, the tropical parts of Australia, Central America and the West Indies, while the alligators, with the exception of one species discovered some few years since in China, are found only in America. They are all of them terribly destructive creatures. The young feed principally on fish, but as they grow larger they attack every animal that they can overcome, dragging their prey into the water and so drowning it. It has been said that more people are killed by crocodiles than by any other of the wild beasts of Africa.

Worms That Are Good to Eat.

The earthworms of Cape Colony, South Africa, specimens of which may be seen in any well regulated American college museum, have a maximum length of 6 feet 5 inches and are thick accordingly. When Mr. Meur and the other Dutch explorers first visited the Good Hope regions these slimy creatures were a regular article of diet.—St. Louis Republic.

Persuaded to Work.

While in Cajamarca in the Cordillera I was sitting with my hosts one evening at the door of their house.

It was a friend of the family, who was on his way to settle an account with a troublesome debtor. When we hinted that a creditor would hardly be ordinarily received at such an hour, he touched something hanging on theommel of his saddle, and said that he had something there which would settle the matter.

His debtor was an Indian who lived not far away in the country, and who had promised to make for him 800 or 400 large adobe bricks in payment for some small wares which he had purchased two years before. He seemed perfectly willing to fulfill his contract, and whenever he was reminded of it would promise to be on hand the next day; but he never appeared.

The merchant was repairing his house, and according to the custom of the country had taken the law into his own hands. An hour after he left us he returned, calling out triumphantly: "Well, I have my man, you see."

His lasso was unrolled. One end was tied to his saddle; the other was fastened about the wrists of an Indian. I shall never forget the captive's impassive face. His strong features, framed in long locks of hair, expressed neither anger nor astonishment—only philosophical submission to fate.

Curiously enough, when some time later another man wished to engage his services he declined the offer. He liked his employer and his work and had no desire to better his condition.—Marcel Mounier.

Death to the Horses.

It is a white and dreary plain. There is a line of straggling gum trees beside a feeble water course.

Six wild horses—brombies, as they are called—have been driven down, corralled and caught. They have fed on the leaves of the myall and stray bits of salt bush. After a time they are got within the traces.

They are all young and they look not so bad. We start. They can scarcely be held in for the first few miles. Then they begin to soak in perspiration. Another five miles and they look drawn about the flanks, and what we thought was flesh is dripping from them.

Another five, and the flesh has gone. The ribs show, the shoulders protrude. Look! A pole's heels are knocking against the whiffletree. It is twenty miles now. There is a gulp in your throat as you see a wreck stagger out of the traces and stumble over the plain, head near the ground and death upon its back. There is no water in that direction, worn out creature.

It comes upon you like a sudden blow. These horses are being driven to death. And why? Because it is cheaper to kill them on this stage of thirty miles than to feed them with chaff at \$250 a ton.

And now another way. Look at the throbbing sides, the quivering limbs. He falls. "Driver, for heaven's sake, can't you see?"

"I do; so help me God, I do. But we've got to get there. I'll let them out at another mile."

And you are an Anglo-Saxon, and this is a Christian land.—"Round the Compass in Australia."

Effect of a Compromise.

In a certain Maine town lives a man who for many years has been engaged in the grocery business, but receiving a good offer he sold out to a younger man and retired to private life. But the ruling passion was too strong to let him long be idle, so he commenced building a store on his land, which adjoined that of the Methodist church. For a time everything went harmoniously and the new store neared a state of completion.

In doing this he discovered that the back of the church rested over on his side of the line three feet. Armed with this new argument he said to the church owners: "If you will move your church three feet I will move my store one." This view of the case was a new one to the church authorities, but recognizing its force they made all haste to effect a compromise.—Lewiston Journal.

Not the Weaker Sex.

To refer to women as the weaker sex, a German scientist says, is surely a mistake, for they have always known how to preserve their dominion over the so called stronger sex. Men are indeed women's most obedient slaves. Solomon said his wives were bitter than death, and surely there never was a greater slave to woman. Statistics show that seven wives survive every ten famous men. Heloise survived the loss of her beloved Abelard twenty-two years, and similarly the wife of Washington, though she declared she could never get over the death of her husband, outlived him thirty years.—San Francisco Argonaut.

Buried Wealth in France.

In Normandy the English conquest in the Fifteenth century, followed by their ultimate expulsion, has given rise to many traditions of buried treasure, which the least superstitious attribute to the English. Throughout France the Revolution, without doubt, gave occasion to many secret hoards, the owners of which may well have perished in the massacres and proscriptions of the Reign of Terror.—All the Year Round.

Ancient and Modern Fashions.

Dr. Julien Chisholm says that there are engraved stones and monuments in the British museum which prove that the present fashion, both in dress and headgear, is almost identical with that of the women of Babylon at about the time of the flood.—St. Louis Republic.

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