

TESTING ANIMALS.

Reasons Why More Intelligent Test Can Be Made on the Farm.

Public tests of celebrated dairy cows may be of little value to the average farmer, as he does not practice the modes of feeding during such tests, nor give the same care and management to his stock. But the tests are valuable, as indicating what an animal can be forced to do if the conditions essential to success are complied with. Now, the farmer's business is to discover what the conditions for the success of his stock are. He may have the examples of others as guides, which will materially assist him, but there are conditions, however, peculiar to his own circumstances, to which he must conform, and in which no one can assist him. His soil, climate, buildings, water, shade, quality of pasture, method of feeding and kinds of food used are all important factors to be considered. So far as the denial of the utility of the public tests is concerned, the fact remains that they serve as beacon lights in the direction of which all must steer. It signifies nothing that the product of the cow may apparently exceed the nutritive value of the food consumed, for the figures are stern, and point unerringly to the realization of the object sought, and though the high-pressure public tests may be of a kind not approved by the farmer, yet they open up to him a wide field for reflection, and teach him that while he may not hope to equal such, yet he must also test his stock, if he is to succeed, without regard to capacity.

Every animal on the farm should be tested—whether cattle, sheep, swine or horses. The ordinary cow should have her merits known to the dairyman, and he should familiarize himself with her qualifications, not only as a milker, but as to the kind and quantity of food best adapted for her purposes, and the most profitable. A cow may give only twenty pounds of milk a day, and yet be an excellent animal if she can produce that amount at a low cost, while another cow in the same herd may yield thirty pounds per day, and yet prove unprofitable compared with the other. The ewe should give two lambs, but it is more important that she give them sufficient nourishment, as well as yielding for herself a fair average of wool. The mare may be serviceable for all kinds of work, and yet be unproductive as a breeder, while the sow, though bring forth large litters of pigs, may be unsuccessful with them as a nurse. Nor are the males to be excepted. The quality of their get is important, while they must also give a profit for themselves as individuals.

In order to know each animal it must, therefore, be tested, and not only tested during certain seasons, but at periods ranging over the whole year in order to thoroughly understand the conditions. Then the feed itself is to be tested, as it differs in quality at certain times. A crop of hay one year may be a different substance from that of another time, and hence the results obtained during certain periods will not always enlighten the farmer as to his proper course at another time. But such tests will materially assist him to avoid mistakes previously committed, and teach him where to economize and when to be liberal and generous with his stock.

Public tests demonstrate that there is no limit to the capacity of an animal as long as the conditions are not complied with. She may be able to do more without having been given an opportunity of so doing, and thus it is on the farm. The farmer should not condemn his animals until he has faithfully endeavored to give them the full privilege of demonstrating their capacity, and when he has performed his part he will then know that his profits will be according to the quality of the stock, as he can retain any such as have proved themselves worthy of his confidence, while the inferior class will be discarded, the result being that the stock will be gradually improved and the profits increased.—*Philadelphia Record.*

The Fashion to Work.

It is the fashion to work. Every woman nowadays, no matter how high her rank or how great her wealth, works as though her bread depended on her industry. There is no moderation in this freak that has bitten all classes like a tarantula, and set them whirling in a fever of occupation. Satan, who used to find so much mischief for idle hands to do, must be at his wits' ends to discover a pair that is not full of play or downright hard work. The moneyed class and the working classes meet on a neutral ground, where millionaires, Emperors and Princesses rush in for their share of labor, and look with scorn on those who hide their talents in a napkin. The fashionable idler is now as busy as a bee, with the bump of approbation in a state of abnormal development. Perhaps these "swelled heads" of society interfere with the labors of men and women who depend on their art or their mechanical skill to keep the wolf from the door, but it can be said in return that the trained artisan or laborer is always worthy of his hire, and there is no code which prevents a fashion from having its little day.—*Boston Beacon.*

"Please will you give me a piece of ice for my father? He's sick," said a little girl to the driver of an ice-cart, the other day. "What's your father sick of, sis?" asked the driver, as he broke a chunk from a cake with a pick and gave it to the girl. "Please, sir, he's sick of the heat," she replied, as she walked away.—*Boston Courier.*

—Young Wife (to husband)—"Don't you notice a difference in the milk, dear?" Young Husband—"Yes; this is much better than we have been getting." Young Wife—"Very much better. I got it of a new man. He said he would guarantee it to be perfectly pure, and so I bought enough to last for a week."—*N. Y. Commercial.*

—A new pansy, seen in well-kept flower plain this season, is of a deep purplish violet, brightened at the petals with borders of white. This rich little flower has the high sounding name of "Lord Beaconsfield," but the girls and boys allude to it as a "Johnny-turn-up!" all the same.

LIMEKILN CLUB.

Brother Gardner Unjustly Imprisoned—Discusses Up a n the Power of Truth and Righteousness.

On the 1st of July Sir Isaac Walpole, acting as temporary President of the Limekiln Club, announced the fact that Brother Gardner, who had gone into the interior of the State to deliver a lecture before a branch lodge, had been mistaken for a member of the last Legislature and thrown into jail. As it could not be told when he would be released the meeting adjourned subject to the call of the Secretary. Last week all local members received a copy of the following circular:

BRUDDER—One beloved President was an inmate of a bastille nearly 7 weeks, doorn' which time he was subjected to such insults an' indignities as few great men hev ever bin called upon to endure. What was at first supposed to be a case of mistaken identity turned out to be a deliberate an' cold-blooded attempt on the part of sartin jealous-minded cull'd men to degrade him an' break his influence.

He was charged with arson, burglary, conspiracy, embezzlement, sedition an' false pretenses, but bress de Lawd! he faced his accusers on ebery charge an' put 'em to flight. Like de Fenix Bird, he riz from his ashes, purified an' polished an' warranted to stand in any calumny.

You am heahby notified dat de reg'lar meetin' of de Lime-Kiln Club will be resumed on the 29th of August wid Brudder Gardner presidin' arter de same ole fashion. Come out an' rejoice wid us. All dogs must be left in room "A," an' any umbrella not marked wid de owner's cognomen mus' look out fur itself.

WATDOWN BEBE. Members began to arrive at an early hour, and a shake purse was made up and six Chinese lanterns and a barrel of lemonade were purchased to decorate the hall in honor of the occasion. It was an occasion for hand-shaking and rejoicing.

Samuel Shin, who has been hunting for Elder Toots for five weeks past with three razors and a stone in a stocking, now approached him in the tenderest manner, and they hugged each other until seventeen lengths of stove-pipe were knocked down.

Kyann Johnson and Professor Banner had thirsted for each other's blood all on account of a dog trade. It was feared that there would be trouble when they met, but in this all were happily disappointed. The spirit of the occasion carried them into each other's arms, and there was scarcely a dry eye in the hall.

Colonel Caboots and Rustproof Taylor have been "off" for these many days, owing to a dispute over a watermelon, and the Colonel had threatened to shoot 264 bullets into his enemy on sight. There was no shooting, however. On the contrary, they shook hands over the bar'l of lemonade, and pledged their love anew.

Brother Gardner was received with several rounds of applause as he came in and took his accustomed seat, and when the triangle had sounded he arose and said:

"My pleasure at sein' you once mo' assembled in dis hall am too great to be depressed in de English language. I thank you fur all de many acts of kindness an' courtesy, an' will endeavor to make myself worthy of your esteem."

"De events of de pas' few weeks hev taught us several lessons, chief among which am de fact dat innocence may be token by de neck an' mopped all ober de floas of a county jail, but she will triumph in de eand."

"De jealous-minded man, seekin' to climb up by pullin' some one else down, may succeed in elevatin' himself a few pegs, but befo' he gets a secure hold de limb breaks an' down he comes wid a kerechunk dat am heard all ober de State."

"Truth may be shot an' scalped and clubbed and buried ten feet under ground, but at de proper moment she bobs up same as if nuffin had happened."

"Hypocrisy an' deceit may flourish fur awhile, an' de hypocrite an' deceiver may imagine he am doin' a stavin' cash bizness, but fust he knows de Eastern creditors come along an' close him out an' he am heard of no mo'."

"We has passed frow de fiery furnace an' come out all right. No man am any wuss off fur a second baking, purviding de fire am not too hot."—*Detroit Free Press.*

A Slight Mistake.

I met a gentleman from Guatemala the other day.

"You must have a lively time down there with all those revolutions," I said.

"Oh, Guatemala is quiet comparatively. If you want revolutions Montevideo is the place. They used to have a revolution there every other day. I remember an English couple, friends of mine, were one day in a photographer's establishment. The camera was set and fixed, the operator was taking a last look under the black cloth, when there was a sudden noise like the discharge of musketry. He threw away the cloth and at once proceeded to close the shutters and barricade the place. My friends rushed out, and as they made for their hotel, everybody along the street was barring up his house and fastening the shutters. The hotel was all closed up when they reached it. They went to their rooms and patiently awaited the expected carnage. An hour passed, but no noise was heard. Finally the husband stole out and found everybody in a huge state of hilarity. It seems that somebody had unloaded a cart of cobbles in the plaza, and everybody had taken it for the customary opening of a revolution."—*San Francisco Chronicle.*

Taking to the Woods.

Citizen (to editor with valise in his hand)—Hello, Shears! where are you going at this hour in the morning?

Editor Shears (looking wearily about)—I'm going for the first train. In writing up the sociable last night I stated that the ladies were the comeliest lot of women I ever saw assembled together. This morning's paper had "homeliest" for "comeliest," and I am going up in the north woods for a month's vacation.

—Old Judge Saunders is a great brag, and has told about a dozen different stories in regard to the weight of a certain big catfish that he caught. A friend, trying to entrap him, asked: "Judge, what was the precise weight of that big fish you caught?" Judge Saunders (to colored waiter): "Bob, what did I say yesterday that catfish weighed?" "What time yesterday, boss—in de mawning, at dinner time, or after supper?"—*Christian at Work.*



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—Have "another piece of cake," said Johnny's mother to a female friend, who was taking dinner with her. "No, don't you do it," put in Johnny; "it will make you sick."

"Why, Johnny, ain't you ashamed of yourself to talk that way?" "Well, mother, that is what you always tell me when I want another piece, and I bet I kin get away with four times as much as Mrs. Green kin."—*Chicago Tribune.*

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CONFEDERATE ARCHIVES.

How the Seal of the Late Confederate Treasury was Made.

The Confederate Treasury seal is among these archives. I don't suppose a hundred men in the country have ever seen it, and it is inaccessible to the sight-seer at Washington. It is a common enough looking affair, and I have seen more fancy seals in many an office of a country notary. It is made of iron, and looks as though a blacksmith had wrought it. The seal or die is screwed into the frame, and it operates by hand, looking very much like one of these little sausage grinders which Ohio farmers who cure their own pork are wont to use. A palmetto tree, doubtless taken from the coat-of-arms of South Carolina, is the emblem engraved upon it, and around the top of this are words stating that it is the seal of the Confederacy. There is also a scrapbook here of Confederate moneys and bonds which contains the cream of the money captured at Richmond. When the Government captured Richmond it obtained a half a million dollars of Confederate bonds, two large chests and five bags containing millions of dollars in Confederate money. Some clerk in the War Department made this scrapbook from the cream of this material and the book is now almost invaluable. Covered with blue paper and cheaply bound, it is made of a blank book of blank drafts on the Confederate Treasury. The paper is thin and the cover of the book shows that it was probably made in the last days of the Confederacy when paper was scarce, and when wall paper was used on which to print the orders of the Government. It makes one feel strange to touch the thousand-dollar bonds which it contains, which—some at least—were once worth so much, but now are worth so little. Some of these five-thousand-dollar bonds have some of their coupons cut off, and others are full. You notice as the dates of the bonds near 1865 their provisions grow more generous, and their prospect of no immediate payment seems to increase. Here is one as big as the blanket sheet of a country newspaper which the Confederacy did not intend to pay until 1894 and they gave 6 per cent, interest upon it. Here is another which is to be paid two years after signing a treaty of peace with the United States, and here is another for \$1,000 issued in 1861, which offers 8 per cent, semi-annually and is to be paid in 1868. And so throughout the scrap-book. These Confederate archives are full of interest and they will grow in value as history points to them as the record, unwritten, of a time and a generation that has passed away.—*Cor. Cleveland Leader.*

FAST TRAVELING.

Increase in the Speed of Railroad Travel in the United States.

Up to a recent date, railroad traveling in the United has not been as swift or as safe as in the leading countries of Europe. In the old world there is more government supervision which insures better work in the construction of roads and more care in the running of trains, while, in the matter of safety, our roads have recently been quite equal to those of Europe. But the companies which built our railway system were forced to cover long distances through thinly settled regions with many physical obstacles in the way, such as do not exist except in rare instances in Great Britain and on the continent. Our roadbeds, alignments and equipments were not up to the mark of the best European standard, hence the slowness of our trains. But lately there has been a change for the better, and on our leading roads almost as good time is made as in the old world. In 1870 the fastest train from New York took three hours and fifteen minutes to reach the outskirts of Philadelphia. The passenger is now landed in the heart of Philadelphia in two hours from New York, the trains going at the rate of forty-five miles an hour. Fifteen years ago the shortest time between New York and Boston was eight hours and twenty minutes. This has been reduced to six hours; and within a couple of years time will be further abridged to five hours. In 1870 St. Louis was 46 hours distant from New York; the time now is 34 hours. New Orleans was 86 hours away; now fifty hours is consumed in the passage. From New York to Chicago by the Pennsylvania route is 912 miles, by the New York Central 980; limited express trains are now run over both roads which average 364 miles per hour on the former, and 39 1-5 on the latter. Both trains reach Chicago in 24 hours apparent time, but 25 hours real time; the difference being due to the longitude. We hear much nowadays about the troubles of railroads in this country, but this relates to their financial affairs, not to their physical condition. As a matter of fact, all our railroads are improving in their service, and are of more value to the traveling and business public as years roll by.—*Democrat's Monthly.*

—When some Americans, who had overheard the remark that Strassburg was famous for "pate de foie gras," reached that old town one day recently they sallied forth in quest of the thing in question. It is said that they actually went into a book store and asked the clerk for "pate de foie gras," and that, being a true-hearted human being, he took them aside, whispering that what they wanted was "goose liver pie." Then, unabashed, they went to an eating house and found the pie—a thing awful to look back upon they say, since it was so very "high" as to suit only the trained palate of the epicure.—*Philadelphia Press.*

—At the recent convention of the Photographers' Association of America, in Buffalo, an informal gathering of some of the members took place at the back of the arsenal, in which the meetings were held, and some group photographs were obtained. One was taken at the moment when a number of the members, according to a request made, threw their hats up high in the air, with a view of providing a test for the rapidity with which the exposure was to be made. It was so successful that in the photograph these hats are to be seen at every stage of elevation.—*Buffalo Ex.*

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