

POULTRY YARD.

Profits of Poultry Keeping.

The Poultry Organ in an article on the "Profits of Poultry Keeping" refers to the report of the Commissioner of Agriculture which gives the details and results of Mr. Warren Leland's 18 acre poultry farm...

The San Francisco Scientific Press of December 24th, 1870, states that an industrious laborer took up some Government land near Marysville, California, built a cabin, and purchased chickens and turkeys of the value of \$100 to start with...

In Flint's "Agriculture of Massachusetts" for 1869, several accounts with poultry are given by citizens of that state which may be briefly summarized: One gentleman kept 8 Braham and Hamburg hens; 1 year's yield, eggs and chicks, \$42.90; cost to feed, \$24; profit, \$18.90, or \$2.10 per fowl...

Without multiplying in this number their statistics, let us briefly call the attention of our agriculturists to these reports, and ask them if they can show for the investment a better credit side (to any stock kept) on their farm ledger. Every farmer has a waste yard, back of the barn, down the lane, up by the brush patch, on the hill-side, over in the stony corner, or down by the swale in the cow yard...

USEFUL INFORMATION.

About Bricks.

Few materials for building are in more constant use than bricks. Even where stone is the principal article used in the composition of a building, bricks are wanted for chimneys, flues, furnaces, ovens, and a number of other purposes. The properties of bricks should vary according to the purposes to which they are to be applied.

Water, when stored in tanks or other closed vessels, seems to undergo a sort of fine process, by which many of its impurities are thrown down as a sediment upon the bottom of the vessel. Sailors assert that water clears itself by working after the manner of wines or liquors.

If we can store water, exclude dust and give some time for settling, the water is pretty sure to be improved in quality. If the cistern is open there are two evils to be apprehended. Dust will find its way into the water and foul gases accumulate in the cistern.

GOOD HEALTH.

Health and Culture.

We are in danger of becoming a nervous, uncomfortable, discontented, wretched race, unless we use our best thought and effort to bring the highest wisdom, and virtue, and order that are within our reach to bear upon our way of living.

An old gas well.—There is a gas well on Wolfe creek, about one mile from the turnpike leading from Mercer to Butler county, which was dug in 1838. This well was dug for salt, and abandoned as a salt well in consequence of a heavy flow of gas.

DOMESTIC ECONOMY.

Danger of Tin Vessels for Cooking Acid Fruits and Vegetables.

In a paper addressed to the French Academy of Sciences, Dr. Fordos gives the results of some experiments on tin vessels used in laboratories and hospitals, and even in private families, for infusions and similar purposes.

Bread from Sawdust.

The chief alimentary substances employed by man may be reduced to three classes, viz: Saccharine, fatty and albuminous substances, of which sugar, butter and eggs may be taken as representatives.

Orange Jelly.

Oranges filled with jelly is a fanciful dish, which makes a pretty appearance on a supper table. Take some very fine oranges, and with the point of a very small knife cut from the top of each a round hole about the size of a silver quarter; then, with the small end of a tea or egg spoon, empty them entirely, taking great care not to break the rinds, and then throw these into cold water and make a jelly of the juice, which must be well pressed from the pulp and strained as clear as possible.

A Widow Worth Having.

Lambert, of West Georgia, Va., fifty-six years old, has for fifteen years supported eight children by laying stone wall, harvesting and other heavy farm work, and has not only made her self owner of a house and a few acres of land, but has given her children a good education.

Prunes in Oregon.

The Granger makes the prediction that in twenty years the export of prunes from Oregon will be greater in value than the export of wheat.

Dress Reform.

(From Pacific Rural Press.)

Editors Press:—Seeing the communication of sister C. A. C. in the RURAL, it revives the spirit of dress reform so much that I feel like offering a few words on the subject.

Ten years ago I spent five months in a school in New York, where a part of the instructions were gymnastics. The ladies could not take the gymnastic exercises wearing the ordinary cumbersome dress; so they unanimously adopted a short, convenient style—one that would admit of perfect freedom of motion, hence I have realized the benefit of a convenient style of dress.

What change can be made for the better? First, an undershirt of drilling or cotton flannel made to fit the form, but not so tight as to obstruct breathing; it should be made nearly as high around the neck as a dress, and extend a few inches below the hips, should have some large buttons at equal distances apart, to button drawers to. The undershirt should have long sleeves or else the dress sleeves should be lined so as to clothe the arms as warm as the body.

A Cure for Corns.

A subscriber, "J. A. H.," writes from Virginia City, Nevada, as follows: "As a regular subscriber to the Press, from which I derive many valuable items of information, I wish, for the benefit of others, to speak of one which I consider has been worth more to me than the price of subscription for your paper for several years.

Cold on the Lungs.

If a cold settles on the outer covering of the lungs it becomes pneumonia, inflammation of the lungs, or lung fever, which in many cases carries the strongest man to his grave within a week.

Shirt Making Made Easy.

In olden time a wife's great honor was shirt-making. Now it is simply a pastime. In selecting muslin for shirts always get the best, either New York mills or Wamsutta—most ladies prefer Wamsutta, as it is easier washed.

The Grange on Internal Improvements.

The Masters of the State Granges for the States of Missouri, Iowa, Wisconsin, Minnesota, Nebraska, Kansas, Ohio, Pennsylvania, Illinois, Michigan and Kentucky, and the Chairman and Secretary of the Executive Committee of the National Grange, have signed and sent a communication to Hon. William Windom, Chairman of the Select Senate Committee on Transportation, strongly urging Congress at the present session to devise some plan for the improvement of the mouths of the Mississippi river.

Colorado State Grange.

The State Grange of Colorado recently held its second annual session. Among the proceedings was a memorial praying Congress to perfect the title to railroad lands, so that they may become subject to taxation. Granting this reasonable request would right a great wrong.

Mr. Beecher and the N. Y. Ledges.

The announcement is made that Mr. Beecher writes no more for the New York Ledger. Whether it is Mr. Beecher or Mr. Bonner who has felt compelled to make this innovation will probably remain forever one of those problems against which the public mind rages itself in vain.

The Anti-Chinese Naturalization Bill.

The Anti-Chinese Naturalization Bill has passed both houses of Congress and will become a law.

THE VINEYARD.

Review of Grape Culture Correspondence.

(From Pacific Rural Press.)

Editors Press:—In your issue of Jan. 16th is an article on grape culture, by P. S. Russell, commenting on a letter on grape culture written by W. S. Sanders, Dec. 16th. He says Mr. Sanders seems to think that in planting cuttings, the more vine is buried in the ground, the more roots it will produce; I agree with Mr. Sanders. If the vine is laid horizontally and not deep, about six inches is deep enough.

Mr. Russell says, "A cutting of grape or other wood will only send roots from bottom end of cutting, and will not root from the buds." In that proposition he is also wrong, for any person who understands the growing of grapes, in preparing cuttings, will cut the bottom end off directly below the bud; the cut being smooth, the knife is better than shears; and the wood left below the bud is apt to decay.

The drawers should be made of drilling or cotton flannel for winter. The stockings for winter should also be made of thick material, or two pair should be worn. The undershirt is a substitute for a corset and I, and the drawers may also be a substitute for a chemise. Some prefer to wear a chemise also. Next to the undershirt should be worn a skirt-supporter of strong material, and made like men's suspenders, except that where men's suspenders are buttoned on to pants, ladies' are attached to a band button which is sewed on to the band, and all the skirts worn should be suspended from the skirt supporter.

Pruning the Vine.

Grape growers differ in regard to pruning, and the proper time to prune. I prune when I am ready, anytime from December to March. I have failed to see any difference so far. I leave from three to five buds, and from four to twelve spurs, according to age of vine, and quality of land. Rich land will mature more grapes and cannot be hurt. I think leaving long spurs and a less number will increase the yield of grapes.

Cold Weather at the East.

Last week seems to have been the coldest spell of the season in the East. The cold culminated on Saturday, closing up the rivers on both sides of New York city. Large numbers of fishing vessels were ice-bound in Cape Cod bay, unable to go either in or out. The entire bay was frozen over, an occurrence never known before.

A Fearful Tale.

A mother and her eight children were burned in their house, near Montreal, Canada, a few days since. The fire caught in the lower part of the house. The father, in trying to put it out, was out off from his family, and barely escaped with his life. Two of the children were killed, and the others, thinking to save them and go back for the others, they might indeed have escaped with them, but the cries for help of the little ones left so overcome her, that she preferred to go back and die with all her children than to escape with a part, and she did so.

Exhibition of Marine Industries.

It is proposed to hold, next year, in Paris, a general exhibition of all kinds of machinery, apparatus, implements, and other articles employed on board ship, in fisheries, and all other trades pursued at sea, or on fresh waters, to which it is to be added a collection of the principal articles of French exports.

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