

Stock.

Horseshoeing.

We have published much about horseshoeing, but the following from the Prairie Farmer is worthy of careful reading: In removing the old shoe prior to the horse being newly shod, each nail ought to be drawn by the pincers independently, and the shoe not torn off as is usually the case.

Short-Horns.

The growing in fine cattle throughout the West is a most encouraging sign. And while new breeds are attracting attention and our breeders and ranchmen are willing to give them all a full and fair trial, and pay handsomely for fine animals, of whatever class, it is encouraging to know that the old and favorite breed—Short-horns—has lost nothing by competition with these newer importations.

Lice on Live Stock.

A writer says that to destroy lice on live stock he has found nothing better than strong carbolic soap-suds. The soap usually sold under the name is not strong enough for the purpose. It may be easily prepared and at any degree of strength that may be required.

Pig Papers.

As a rule the pig is reared for the money that is in him. We may talk about cheap meats for the millions as a necessity justifying the rearing of swine, and persuade ourselves that the man is excusable who at this day places before his fellow men, as an article of diet, that which in olden times was rejected by an

honored people as unfit for human food. Little difference, however, does it make to the man thus excused, whether we think of him as a philanthropist or one engaged in leading mankind astray, so long as he has a fair profit on the pigs he rears, or on the pork products he can place on the market.

A Free Martin.

I have a well-bred Durham cow—dropped twin calves November 5, 1882, one heifer and one bull, the heifer being strongest. When dropped the bull calf was weak for a time. I am told none of them are good for breeding purposes.

Right Living.

It is preposterous to suppose that we can live as our sensual impulses may dictate, outrage all common sense, violate all of the laws of our being, and then escape the penalty. We cannot live like swine and rise to the position of angels.

Profitable Age of Sheep.

There are few animals kept on a farm, that when they are in their prime, pay as well as sheep, and there are few if any others upon which old age has so damaging an effect. As the sheep is much shorter lived than any other of our domestic animals, it is not strange that many of our farmers attempt to keep them too long.

The United States has in round numbers 38,000,000 cattle, 10,500,000 horses, 36,000,000 sheep and 48,000,000 hogs; being first in cattle and hogs, second in horses, fourth in sheep.

Horticultural.

HORTICULTURAL NOTES.

Ripe tomatoes will remove ink or other stains from the hands. Kerosene will soften leather hardened by water and render it as pliable as new. To heal cut fingers with rapidity, wash them in a cloth saturated with alum water; it will sting sharply for a little while, but the pain will subside quickly and for good.

Some seeds will retain their germinating properties for many years. There are others again will lose their vitality very speedily. Wheat and peas have been hermetically sealed in the tombs of mummies of Egypt, for not less than four thousand years, have been grown and produced their kind.

A New York farmer has found by experience that Hubbard squashes fed to hogs fatten more rapidly than corn. He fed Hubbards raised on one acre and the corn raised on one acre to two bunches of hogs. Those fed on the Hubbards weighed heavier than the same number fed on corn.

A regular rotation of crops should be adopted and systematically adhered to, and so arranged that every year a portion of the farm that has laid fallow, or upon which clover has been turned under, may be brought into cultivation.

A novel method of dealing with the codling moth, the parent of the apple worm, has very recently been practised to good advantage. There are two broods of worms in one season, often three. The first brood is hatched from eggs which are laid in the blow end of the apple soon after the flower drops.

The easiest way to increase roses is by layering. When the flowering season is over a branch may be cut through in a sloping direction, and the cut portion laid and pegged down and covered with soil, or it may be pressed down into a pot, and when it is rooted the layer is severed from the original plant.

The Farmer's Magazine thus says regarding sunflowers: The sunflower yields more seed than corn. A bushel of seed will yield a gallon of oil, and the residuum is equivalent to that of linseed. The stalks make excellent fuel and furnish a fine fiber for working with silk.

It is a practice with some farmers to whitewash the trunks and larger limbs of their young apple trees every spring, to remove moss and destroy moths and other insects. The practice, however, is not a good one. The bark of a tree performs functions similar to the skin of a person.

Setting Large and Small Trees.

A resident of one of our large villages, who had come into possession of a fine lot which he wished to plant, but who had little experience in tree culture, called on a neighboring nurseryman to make purchases. He wanted nothing but large trees—two inches in diameter if he could find them, and ten feet high.

London, with his long and extensive experience as a landscape gardener, offered to make a public test with any one who would try large trees, he himself planting small and thrifty ones with full roots, in rich, deeply trenched and well cultivated ground, with the confident assurance that in a given number of years he would show trees not larger but immeasurably finer in appearance.

The practical hint to be derived from these facts at present, by those who make purchases of large trees last fall, or other already planted or heeled-in for next spring, is to give them the extra care which they require, by spreading all the roots which they have, equally on different sides when they are set, filling in all the interstices among them with fine earth compactly trodden or beaten; bracing the trees firmly against the wind by staking; and before the buds swell in spring cutting back all the annual shoots to lighten the heads.

The Exciting Property of Oats.

Experiments have been recently made by M. Sanson, with a view to settling the question whether oats have or have not the excitant property that has been attributed to them. The nervous and muscular excitability of horses was carefully observed with the aid of graduated electrical apparatus, before and after they had eaten a given quantity of oats or received little of a certain principle which M. Sanson succeeded in isolating from oats.

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