

AGRICULTURAL.

Contentment on a Farm.

The farmers of to-day, as a rule, are as intelligent and independent as any other class of people, and there is no reason in the world why they should not be content with their lot nor why they should envy the professions or even the gentlemen of leisure of the cities. The city people have their troubles and heartaches that the farmers know not of. Many of them can scarcely get along, and their pride leads them to imitate their more wealthy neighbors, so they pinch and stint at home so they can appear well when they go out in company or on the street; yet at heart they suffer and hope on and on, but their hopes are seldom realized. The merchant and manufacturer watch the crops as anxiously as does the farmer, and if there is a failure they get the blues as badly, if not worse than the farmer. They depend upon the crops of the farmers for their success in trade. If the crops fail there are long faces all around in every branch of business. The minister and lawyer, too, have their troubles; if the flock fail to give it support, or the client fails to come around, there are care and anxiety, if not worse. But the farmer who is fortunate enough to own a small farm is sure of enough to eat for himself and family, and of the best too, if he desires. He may not become wealthy, but so sure as the sun shines and the rains and dews come down from heaven in their good time, he need not suffer or even want. We believe in the country, we believe in the farm, and the farmer that is wise will be content with his condition and stick to his farm and let no other notion drive him from it to the store.

Packing Apples.

"Handle apples as you would handle eggs" is good advice. Old flour barrels, unless carefully washed and dried, will impart a musty flavor to the fruit before midwinter, especially if the air in the cellar is moist. The first apples which are put in market barrels should be "faced." The facing consists in placing two or three layers on the lower head with stems down; that is, with stems pointing toward the head. Clean, bright apples of ordinary size, should be selected for this purpose. The rest of the apples may be poured into the barrel. This pouring, if properly done, will not injure the apples. Eggs can be poured. Use a basket with a swinging handle, one which can be lowered into the barrel and turned while there, and hold the apples with the hand, so that they will not pour out too rapidly. Two or three times during the filling shake the barrel gently to settle the apples firmly. Face the upper head in the same manner as the lower one. It is desirable not to head up the barrel at once. Cover with boards to keep out the rain, and let the barrels stand open four or five days. It is not, however, always possible to cover the barrels, in which case they may be headed up at once and turned down on their sides. In this condition they will shed water. [American Agriculturist.

Don't Neglect Your Bees.

With certain rural industries we may often expect fairly liberal returns, in spite of a considerable amount of neglect, but with bee keeping it is different, and in most cases the lack of prompt attention means entire failure, says the Planter and Stockman. The thoughtless, careless person will surely fail in bee keeping. He who is willing to give this subject his last thoughts, and only turns his attention in that direction after every other duty has been performed, will do well to leave this work for others. Bees do not "work for nothing and board themselves." They require a reasonable amount of intelligent care, just the same as anything else. It is certain, however, that no department has ever given larger returns for the outlay than the bees; to this hundreds can testify. We very often meet thrifty farmers who say that their bees bring them more ready money than any other one thing in connection with the farm. In almost every family composed of several children, there will be at least one who would make a good bee keeper, if given a little encouragement for a start. To begin the business a person should be moderate; very little money should go into it until after carefully studying the subject. It is necessary to read a good book on bee culture, and quite important to keep up with the times by taking a good newspaper, which gives reliable information. A single colony is sufficient for a start, and ought always, by a beginner be purchased from a person regularly engaged in the business, and who is not selling a patent right or riding a hobby of his own. Simplicity in hives is advised almost universally with modern bee keepers. The hive most generally used in the United States is known as the Langstroth hive and bears no patent. No prosecutions need be feared by anyone manufacturing or using it. The Port Townsend Argus says that Mr. Barker, on four measured acres of land, has harvested four hundred and sixteen bushels of wheat—a yield of one hundred and four bushels to the acre. Some eastern millers who have examined this wheat pronounce it of superior quality. Uncle Bill Barker takes the cake as a wheat raiser.

Sleep as a Tonic

A scientific writer says: Sleep, if taken in the right moment, will prevent an attack of nervous headache. If the subjects of such headache will watch the symptoms of its coming they can notice that it begins with a feeling of weariness or heaviness. This is the time a sleep of an hour or even two, as nature guides, will effectually prevent the headache. If not taken just then it will be too late, for after the attack is fairly under way it is impossible to get to sleep till far into the night perhaps. The giving of anodynes and the forming of the disastrous opium habit has often arisen out of such circumstances and ignorance of the preventive value of sleep. It is so common in these days for doctors to forbid having their patients waked to take medicine if they are asleep when the hour comes round that the people have learned the lesson pretty well, and they generally know that sleep is better for the sick than medicine. But it is not so well known that sleep is a wonderful preventative of disease—better than tonics, regulators or stimulants.—[American Farmer.

Liquor dealers pay on an average \$2 per gallon for whisky. One gallon contains on an average sixty-five drinks, and at ten cents a drink the poor man pays \$6.50 per gallon for his whisky. In other words he pays \$2 for his whisky, and \$4.50 to the man for handing it over the bar, to say nothing of the water added. Now, if you must drink, make your wife your barkeeper. Lend her \$2 to buy a gallon of whisky for a beginning, and every time you want a drink go to her and pay her ten cents for it. If she waters it twenty-five per cent., which will be none the worse for you, by the time you have drunk a gallon she will have \$7.12, or enough to refund the \$2 borrowed and have a balance of \$5.12. She will be able to conduct further operations on her own capital, and when you become an inebriate, unable to support yourself, and shunned by respectable persons, your wife will have money enough to keep you until you get ready to fill a drunkard's grave.—[Farm and Fireside.

Mrs. General Custer is writing a book on frontier life in Kansas just after the civil war.

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Situated on Murphy Creek, Josephine County, Oregon, eight miles south of Grants Pass, a first-class FLOURING MILL, with Patent Machinery, doing good work and has a good custom. The FARM contains 330 acres of land, 30 acres in clover, and over 100 acres under cultivation; also good Orchard, good House and Barns and irrigation ditch. Fine situation for a dairy farm. Can irrigate almost any part of the plant. For further particulars call or address LEWIS STRONG, Murphy, Oregon.

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—In stock, consisting of—

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Nectarine, Almond, Etc.
—Also the Celebrated—
Kelsey Japan Plum!
—All trees Warranted—
TRUE TO NAME.
And grown on natural fruit land, without irrigation, and free from all insect pests and diseases, such as California trees are subject to.

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