



REAL RURAL READING

WILL BE FOUND IN THIS DEPARTMENT.

Farmers Should Make Money—Value of Ensilage as Fodder—A Hint to House Builders—How Cows and Calves Should be Fed—The Poultry Yard, Household, Etc.

Reducing Farm Expenses.

FARMERS have always been more noted for their carefulness about small expenses than for prodigality. Their business is one so full of detail that if the little things are not looked after, even the largest crops and best prices will not save from loss. It is the lack of the close attention to details that farming requires that has caused the failure of schemes of bonanza farming. What is done by hired help, not under personal supervision of the employer's eye, is apt to do only eye service. It is as true practically as when first uttered, that the hireling flocks because he is a hireling. The workman in any occupation who always makes his employer's interest his own is invaluable. Yet if he would but regard it rightly that interest is identical with his. The keen competition for intelligent, reliable help insures it what it can earn, for if one employer will pay for faithful service, another will.

It's the *cheapest* medicine you can buy, because it's *guaranteed* to give satisfaction, or your money is returned.

You only pay for the good you get.

Can you ask more?

That's the *peculiar* plan all Dr. Pierce's medicines are sold on.

Common Soap
Rots Clothes and
Chaps Hands.

IVORY
SOAP
DOES NOT.



Miss K. Finnigan writes: My mother and sister used Pastor Koenig's Nerve Tonic for neuralgia. They are both perfectly well now and never tire of taking the tonic.

Rock Island, Ill., Nov. 22, 1888.

This remedy was prepared by the Reverend Pastor Koenig, of Fort Wayne, Ind., since 1854, and is now prepared under his direction by the

KOENIG MED. CO., Chicago, Ill.

Sold by Druggists at \$1 per Bottle. 6 for \$5. Large Size, \$1.75. 6 Bottles for \$9.

**PURE BLOOD,
GOOD DIGESTION,
SOUND SLEEP,
SWEET BREATH,
CLEAR COMPLEXION,
BRIGHT EYES,
GOOD HEALTH,
HAPPINESS AND
LONG LIFE**
ARE SECURED BY USING
DR. WHITE'S
DANDELION Alterative.

It costs but \$1 for a very large bottle, and every bottle is warranted.

ELY'S
CATARRH
CREAM BALM

Cleanses the Nasal Passages, Alleviates Pain and Inflammation, Heals the Sores, Restores the Senses of Taste and Smell.

TRY THE CURE! HAY-FEVER

A partice is applied to each nostril and is agreeable. Price 50c each at Druggists or by mail.

ELY BROTHERS, 56 Warren Street, New York.

THE SMALLEST PILL IN THE WORLD!

**TUTT'S
TINY LIVER PILLS**

have all the virtues of the larger ones; equally effective, purely vegetable.

Exact size shown in this border.

FAT FOLKS REDUCED

Mrs. Alice Marie, Oregon, Mo., writes: I have a friend who is a fat person, and she should use Tutt's Liver Pills for her.

For circles, address, with \$1.00, Mrs. F. A. TUTT, McVicker's Theatre, Chicago, Ill.

LOUIS RAGG & CO. are the oldest and most reliable Patent Solicitors in Washington, D.C.

GRIND YOUR OWN
BONE, MEAL,
GRAIN, FLOUR AND CORN, IN THE
55 HAND MILL.

Keepers, Potters, FEED MILLS, CIRCLES, and other articles sent to WILSON BROS., BOSTON, MASS.

PISO'S CURE FOR CONSUMPTION

Consumers who have weak and feeble constitutions, who should use Piso's Cure for Consumption. It has cured thousands. It has not injured any of those who used it. It is the best cough syrup. Sold everywhere. 25c.

CONSUMPTION

uncertain. Consequently ensilage of different plants is yearly made at the Station, managed in different ways, fed to different classes of stock, in various combinations, and the observations made are duly recorded.

LIVE STOCK.

Age Tests.

A heifer has no rings on her horns until she is 2 years of age, and one is added each year thereafter. You can therefore tell the age of a cow with tolerable accuracy by counting the rings on her horns and adding two to the number. The bull has no rings, as a rule, until he is 5 years old, so to tell his age after that period, add five to the number of rings. The better way to tell the age is by the teeth, which is of course the only way with polled cattle. What are called the milk teeth gradually disappear in front. At the end of three years the second pair of permanent teeth are well grown, at four years the third pair, and at five the fourth and last pair have appeared, and at this time the central pair are of full size. At seven years a dark line, caused by the wearing of the teeth, appears on all of them, and on the central pair a circular mark. At eight years this circular mark appears on all of them, and at nine years the central pair begins to shrink, and the third at eleven. After this period the age can only be determined by the degree of shrinkage generally. At fifteen the teeth are nearly all gone.

Horse Breeding.

The special demand for certain classes of horses is ought to be well known by everybody, but judging from the fact that so many scrubs are yet bred is evidence enough, says the Rural and Stockman, that this demand is either not known or not appreciated. There is a demand for good horses of all breeds. The market is not overstocked in any direction whatever. The heavy draft horses are always in demand; the Hambletonian sells readily enough; the Morgan is always in demand; the Coacher is not imported or bred largely enough to satisfy the demand for that class of horses. What then shall we breed? From what we have said the proper answer would seem to be: "Breed anything but the scrubs." There are horses at work in Chicago that cost only from ten to forty dollars; and they do the work at which they are put. Some of them are not very old horses either. But they are scrubs to begin with and perhaps having been bred from defective sires or dams have been good for nothing from the beginning. They are not the kind of horses that the public in general want. Looking over our weekly horse sales it is not difficult to see what kind of horses we ought to breed if we want to make anything from horse breeding. Horses are like all other kinds of stock in the matter of profit, they must be the best to be profitable.

THE DAIRY.

The greatest reduction in the prices of most improved agricultural machinery. As various patents run out the cost from the manufacturers will be greatly lessened. This is to a greater extent than is thought true now in machinery where there is rightful competition of firms manufacturing under different patents.

Any one now can buy reapers, mowers, drills and cultivators 20 to 30 percent cheaper than was charged for them a decade ago.

The greatest reduction of farm expenses, however, must be relative by increasing amount and value of its products. Rich and well-drained land produces so much more than that in poor condition as to give the farmer who owns the best farm a great advantage. He and his hired help may work no harder, and possibly not so many hours, but they accomplish more, and thereby produce at less cost. This is the only practical way to make farming pay. The man who does not improve his farm, and waits for a high price to help out his poor farming, will learn when the good prices come that he has so little to sell that it does not profit him much.

On the other hand, if he conducts his business so as to produce large crops these can usually be sold at some profit in any condition of the market.

—American Cultivator.

How to Fasten Brush Scythe to Sthath.

Here is the most substantial way of fastening a scythe to the stath I have ever seen or tried, says a Practical Farmer correspondent. The patent devices always give way when cutting brush or striking stumps and rails in the fence corners.

I took a piece of an old square, cut it about five inches long, drilled four holes, fastened it to the stath with the scythe with the old-fashioned heel ring. Drive the stump of an old nail behind the shank of scythe, and the trouble is ended. I can cut off bushes as large as the stath and the scythe is always there. You can get the scythe adjusted or hung to suit yourself before putting in the screws to fasten the plate.

The Value of Ensilage.

The Maryland agricultural experiment station reports the best method of preserving forage and the comparative value of the same plant, harvested and stored in different ways, form part of the general problem of forage and feeding. The system of silos and ensilage is no longer an experiment. Practical farmers and dairymen in all parts of the country have demonstrated the direct profit and the incidental advantages of preserving a portion of their forage crops in the form of ensilage, so as to give their animals, of all kinds, a fair proportion of succulent food, throughout the year. Ensilage is found as profitable for supplementing pasture in times of drought, as for giving stock "green bite" in the winter. Indian corn is the favorite crop of ensilage, the most productive, the easiest to raise, and all considered, the best. But clovers, the cow-pea and the soja bean, make a more nutritious article of ensilage, and may be advantageously mixed with corn, in the silo. Other plants and waste products, some unpalatable in other forms, make fair ensilage.

Ensilage is no better food for stock than good roots, but in nine case out of ten, ensilage can be produced and handled easier and cheaper than roots, and is just as good for stock-food. A good many points regarding silos and ensilage remain unknown or

Treatment for Lice.

The best fumigation known to us is as follows: Take a small furnace, or stove, or iron kettle, into which place a pound or two of crude roll sulphur, broken up. Close the doors and windows (during the absence of the fowls in the forenoon) and set the contents of the vessel on fire in the center of the floor. Shut the house up tight and leave it to smoke a couple of hours. Then open all the windows and doors for thorough ventilation.

If a poultry house is infested with red mites or red spider lice, we suggest the use of kerosene, as it is said that kills them at once. As their haunts are the cracks and crevices of the roosting-poles, the sides of the buildings, nest boxes, etc., they are easily destroyed. Where they are numerous, go over the whole inside of the building with hot whitewash, using it quite freely, so as to fill every crack and crevice. Clean out and whitewash the nest boxes, clean up the floor and put in fresh sand.

Kansas Farmer.

THE HOUSEHOLD.

A Baby Jumper.

A jumper for the baby to amuse itself with can be knocked together with a few sticks, as shown in the cut. A is a strong board two inches wide and forty inches long, supported on the board D, which is six inches high and acts as a pivot. The lever A runs through a hole in the end board C and is connected by a strong spring to the bottom supports, so that

the child can jump up and down with safety. By moving the brace E and the cross-bar F, the pivot D can be changed. The two supports, marked B, are thirty-six inches long and two inches wide. The end block G is fourteen inches high and six inches wide, the hole in it for A being six inches from the bottom, five inches high and two and one-half inches wide. Farm and Home.

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It is therefore not likely that farm wages will soon, if ever, materially decline. The demand for young men in city employments has for many years taken the most active and enterprising—more than it will, we believe, in the near future. Business life in cities is precarious. Few merchants can go through life without a failure at its middle or at the close. The fact is becoming recognized that equal executive ability on the farm will, on the average, produce as much wealth and more comfort than it can in average business and commercial city enterprises. Except in the item of farm help, and possibly also in that, the cost of getting farm work done has declined, the aggregate expense is greater, but it is or may be offset by still larger results. One man with improved machinery can do much more work that not only does he earn better pay, but something is or ought to be left over for the farmer if he hires his part.

There is also great reduction in the prices of most improved agricultural machinery. As various patents run out the cost from the manufacturers will be greatly lessened. This is to a greater extent than is thought true now in machinery where there is rightful competition of firms manufacturing under different patents.

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THE DAIRY.

Experiments at the Iowa Station give the following facts or indications: Quality of milk so far as measured by its percentage of fat was changed by feed to a much greater degree than was quantity. Two-thirds of the increase in average gross yield of butter fat was due to improved quality of the milk, and only one-third to increased milk-flow.

Corn is not a perfect milk ration. Substitution of bran and oilmeal result in increase of quantity and quality of milk. A ration of skim-milk and ground flaxseed compares favorably with a new ration for young calves. The larger gain came from the whole milk but a part of it was partly due to the individuality of the calves and good results and a thrifty growth were made on skim-milk and ground flaxseed. The skim-milk calves were interrupted less in growth by weaning than the whole milk calves. A saving in value of butter fat alone of \$1.11 per month on each calf was effected by substituting ground flaxseed.

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