MANURE.

Some Speculations Relative to Its Manufacture and Use.

One of the most important questions affecting the future welfare of the farmer is the question of keeping up the fertility of the soil. If farming is so conducted that the farmer is continually exhausting his capital, the soil, bankruptcy can only be a question of time. If the farmers should grow the ordinary rotation of crops, selling off the farm all the fruits, vegetables, grass, straw and grain grown, it is evident that, while he would be selling his products in their cheapest, least valuable forms, he would be reducing constantly the amount of food for crops in his soil, diminishing its capacity for producing future crops. The farmer who consumes on the farm only what is necessary to feed his family and such animals as are needed to work the farm and supply the family with such meat, milk, etc., as it needs, selling the remainder, is reducing the farm's fertility a little less rapid, but none the less certainly. The farmer who works enough stock to consume all the hay, straw, corn, oats and barley, converting all of these products into beef, mutton, wool, milk, pork, eggs, etc., and selling them in such forms, generally receives more money for his products and retains a larger percentage on the farm to feed future crops, than by any other disposition he can make of his farm's products.

There is still another way: The farmer who converts his products into animal forms, selling in their crude state only his wheat, potatoes, beans and fruits, purchasing and feeding enough meal, middlings, oil meal, etc., to equal the plant food sold, and carefully saves and judiciously applies the manure to growing crops, may accumulate money and keep his principal, the ingredients of crops in his soil unimpaired. After having done all of this many farmers really increase the fertility of their soil, under crops, by a judicious purchase and use of commercial fertilizers, some forms of nitrogen, phosphoric acid and potash. When a farmer is able to do all of this he is a successful farmer.

Next to the question of making all the manure consistent with true economy, it becomes a question of hardly less importance how best to save and use the manure. Forty or fifty years ago, while the farmer understood something of the value of the solid excrements of animals, but little effort was made to save the liquid excrements. Since then chemistry has taught him the value of the latter, and considerable effort is made to save them by using litter under the animals to absorb their liquids, or by draining them into gutters supplied with absorbents. Doubtless few farmers make all necessary efforts to save the urine voided by their domestic animals, but progress has been made in this direction.

But how shall the manure be saved from loss through decomposition, evaporation, solution, etc.? Forty years ago much was said about composting manures, mixing them with absorbents, so that decomposition would be slow, and the volatile parts, the ammonia especially, would be taken up by the absorbents. Practical farmers found that this involved too much labor, handling over the manure and absorbents too many times. Finally, practical farmers conceived the idea of conserving manure by applying it to the soil as fast as made, and allowing the soil to act as an absorbent. The greater bulk of the manure made on the farm is when the animals are up from pasture, from the first of November to the first of May, and a large proportion of farmers apply this manure to sod land for corn. Considerable experience has satisfied them that if this manure is drawn out daily or weekly, and spread upon the sod, more beneficial effects will be visible in the next season's crop of corn than by keeping it in the barn yard and applying it in the spring. We have been assured by farmers that have commenced in November drawing out and spreading their manure on sod, continuing it up to the time of ploughing for corn in May, that the best corn in the field was where the first manure was applied and the corn diminished gradually to the last application before ploughing. The manure can gain nothing in plant-food by lying in a pile in the barn-yard or under a shed or in a barn-cellar, and it must inevitably lose something."

Will it not waste more where spread out upon a sod? Experience says not. The small proportion of ammonia released by slow decomposition is probably absorbed by the moisture present and gradually washed into the soil, and the soluble portions are also washed in. Then the effect of the manure as a mulch is beneficial. Scientists have not satisfactorily explained the good effects of mulch, summer and winter, upon soil, but experience has borne witness to it. For gardening operations of many kinds it seems quite important that stable manure should be rotted down fine, but for ordinary farming purposes it is seldom necessary. Well-rotted manure undoubtedly costs several times more than crude manure, and the extra cost is only returned where the products are much more valuable than ordinary farm crops.

The manure made through summer appears to be used to best advantage as a top dressing for wheat. It is generally applied after ploughing and harrowed in. Perhaps, if applied upon the surface just before drilling, it would be quite as beneficial, if it would not interfere with the drilling. Commercial fertilizers have generally been found most useful when drilled in with the seed. That, with a great many farmers, they have added very much to the yields of wheat, barley, oats, corn, beans, etc., we have had abundant evidence during the last twenty-five years. On some soils they do not appear to be effective. What soils they will benefit and what not not can only be determined by experiment.—*Rural Home.*

—Pork Cake: One pound of pork chopped fine, two cupfuls of boiling water, three cupfuls of coffee sugar, one cupful of molasses, seven cupfuls of flour, one teaspoonful of cloves, one teaspoonful of nutmeg, one teaspoonful of allspice, two pounds of fruit, more or less.—*Toledo Blade.*

FARM AND FIRESIDE.

—Don't throw away bones, but convert them into fertilizers.

—If you wish to clean up an old piece of ground that is filled with coarse grass, weeds and briars, turn in the sheep.

—A little borax put in the water in which scarlet napkins and red-bordered towels are to be washed will prevent them from fading.—*N. Y. Herald.*

—For chapped lips, beeswax dissolved in a small quantity of sweet oil, by heating carefully. Apply the salve two or three times a day, and avoid wetting the lips as much as possible.—*Savannah News.*

—In buying a cow find out for yourself if she is what you want. Don't take anybody's word for it. A mean cow is such an intolerable nuisance that many men are strongly tempted to strain a point in order to get rid of her. —*Hartford Courant.*

—Too many, in breaking their horses, put them immediately to work. This custom, while effective, destroys somewhat the the temper and action of a horse. The most humane and profitable course to pursue is to make the work light at first, gradually increasing it until the full capacity of the horse is reached—*Prairie Farmer.*

—An exchange thinks a good substitute for the major portion of milk feed to calves can be made at a small cost as follows: One-half peck ground linseed, one peck of ground corn, one peck of ground oats, one peck of wheat bran; mix thoroughly and boil one pint of the mixture in three gallons of water, stirring often. After the first three days this can be almost wholly fed to calves, with only a quart of skim milk at each feed.

—Lemon Pudding: Beat the yelks of two eggs in a pudding dish: add two cupfuls of sugar; dissolve four tablespoonfuls of corn starch in a little cold water; stir into it two teacupfuls of boiling water; put in the juice of two lemons with the grated peel; mix all together with a teaspoonful of butter; bake about fifteen minutes. When done spread over the top the beaten whites of two eggs, previously sweetened with white sugar. Let it brown a moment in the oven. Serve either cold or hot. —*Boston Budget.*

—Chicken jelly for invalids: Half a raw chicken pounded with a mallet, bones and meat together; cover with cold water and heat very slowly in a covered vessel. Let it simmer until the meat is in rags and the water reduced one-half. Strain and press through a collander or coarse cloth. Season to taste and return to the fire for five minutes. Skim when cool. Keep it on ice and give it to the patient cold. For a change the jelly can be made into a sandwich with thin slices of bread and butter and will be found very nourishing.—*The Household.*

—A correspondent writes: "I saw a novel way of mending a woolen dress in which a round hole had been torn and where only a patch could remedy matters. The frayed portions around the tear were carefully smoothed, and a piece of the material, moistened with very thin mucilage, was placed under the hole. A heavy weight was put upon it until it was dry, when it was only possible to discover the mended place by careful observation." Surely worth while trying, for patches are premeditated poverty. It would, however, probably only answer for mending the skirt of a dress,—*San Francisco Chronicle.*

"KYANIZING."

The Process by Which Posts Are Made Indestructible.

In agricultural and other journals thirty or forty years ago, much was said of "Kyanizing," a process by which wood is rendered insusceptible of decay. How long the process had then been known, the writer is unaware; in the United States Patent Office report of 1861, it is stated that Mr. Kyan, of England, endeavored "many years ago" to have it generally adapted as a means of preserving ship timber. Originally, a solution of corrosive sublimate was forced into the wood, but other and less expensive agents were afterward employed with equal success. Sulphate of iron, or copperas, sulphate of copper, or blue vitriol and chloride of zinc are some of the chemicals thus used. The philosophy of the process is, that the albumen contained in the wood, a substance similar in properties to white of egg, possibly indentical with it, and peculiarly liable to decay, is converted by the chemicals into an insoluble compound very much as the albumen or gelatine of hide is changed in the process of tanning. Thus rendered insoluble, instead of being, as before, an inciting cause of rotting of the woody fibre, it surrounds and protects every cell and particle with a water-proof indestructible coating, and so prevents decay.

On the Slater farm at Greece Center, is a board fence built in 1852, the posts of which were Kyanized There was at that time an establishment in Rochester where the process was carried on, but by whom, or how long a time, I do not know. Probably business enough was not done to make it a financial success. Mr. Gilbert Kishlar, whose father owned the Slater farm, and built this fence, informs me that some of the posts were elm, too tough, and some were chestnut too brittle and worm-eaten to split. They were sawed tapering from six inches square at one end to two by six at the other. The chemicals, said to have been copperas, with an admixture of some other ingredients, the latter possibly of no great utility, were forced by machinery, while boiling hot, into the pores of the wood, until the timber was perfectly saturated throughout. On a small scale, perhaps boiling the butt ends of the posts in a solution of copperas, might answer, several posts being stood upright in a large kettle and treated at once. The posts of the fence in question were set in holes varying from two and a half to three feet deep, small stone being used to fill in. Coal-tar was put on the ends of the boards and across the centers where nailed to the posts. The fence now, is fully thirty-two years old, but Mr. Kishlar declares that but for the preparation many of the posts would have lasted not more than five years.—*American Rural Home.*

—The area of Brooklyn is 13,337 acres, that of the city of New York is 26,500 acres, and that of Staten Island nearly that of both put together, being about 37,440 acres.—*N. Y. Post.*

—Philadelphia has opened a reading-room exclusively for the Chinese. Its library is mostly made up of Bibles, testaments and hymn-books in both languages.

—A temperance society in Boston has resolved that the use of tobacco for the gratification of the appetite is "a sin against God and humanity."—*Boston Globe.*

—Dynamite has thirteen times the force of gunpowder.

Junior Vice Commander.

Mr. A. G. Alford, Junior Vice Department Commander of Md., G. A. R., Baltimore, Md., writes: "I have kept St. Jacobs Oil by me and always found it a ready remedy for pains, aches and bruises. When suffering terribly a few weeks since with an ulcerated tooth, I could not get any rest, and I applied it. I was instantly relieved, and my suffering ceased from that time."

He—"I see the latest idiocy of women is to have a monkey for a pet." She—"That is not new. It was so when we got married."—*Boston Transcript.*

"Over and Over Again."

Repetition is sometimes the only way to impress a truth upon the mind. Accordingly take notice that Dr. Pierce's "Pleasant Purgative Pellets," (the original Little Liver Pills) continue to be wonderfully effective in cases of sick and nervous headache, constipation, indigestion, rush of blood to the head, cold extremities, and all ailments arising from obstruction of the bodily functions. Their action is thorough yet gentle, and the ingredients being entirely vegetable, they can be taken with impunity into the most delicate stomach. All druggists.

A lightning-rod agent is the chap who likes to give points to the people.—*N. Y. Journal.*

Young Men, Read This.

The Voltaic Belt Co., of Marshall, Mich., offer to send their celebrated Electro-Voltaic Belt and other Electric Appliances on trial for 30 days, to men (young or old) afflicted with nervous debility, loss of vitality and all kindred troubles. Also for rheumatism, neuralgia, paralysis, and many other diseases. Complete restoration to health, vigor, and manhood guaranteed. No risk incurred, as 30 days' trial is allowed. Write them at once for illustrated pamphlet, free.

Motto for crazy-quilt manufacturers: "Blessed are the peacemakers."—*New Orleans Item.*

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of the urethra, speedily and permanently cured by our improved methods. Pamphlet, references and terms, two three-cent stamps. World's Dispensary Medical Association, 663 Main Street, Buffalo, N. Y.

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Pike's Toothache Drops cure in 1 minute. 25c. *Glenn's Sulphur Soap* heals and beautifies. 25c. German Corn Remover kills Corns & Bunions.

What is a luxury? asks an exchange. A luxury is something you don't want until you see somebody else with it.—*Philadelphia Call.*

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I had a valuable horse taken with the pinkeye, resulting in blood poison. After nine months of doctoring with all the remedies to be found in horse books, I despaired of a cure. His right hind leg was as large as a man's body, and had on it over forty running sores. At last I thought of Swift's Specific. I used fifteen bottles. In August last all symptoms of the disease disappeared. There have been no signs of a return, and the horse has done a mule's work on my farm ever since. Jas. L. Fleming, Augusta, Ga.

January 9, 1885.

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From Col. C. H. Mackey, 32d Iowa Infantry: I have used Ely's Cream Balm for three months and am experiencing no trouble from catarrh whatever. I have been a sufferer for twenty years.—C. H. Mackey, Sigourney, Iowa.

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To the Public:

In view of the harmful results which so frequently attend the use of so-called patent or proprietary cough syrups containing morphia, opium and other equally dangerous drugs, the undersigned, physicians of Maryland, take pleasure in endorsing the official opinions expressed by the Commissioner of Health of Baltimore; Dr. Samuel K. Cox, analytical chemist, of Washington, and other authorities to the effect that the Red Star Cough Cure is not only a perfectly harmless, but at the same time an original and most effective remedy, and that it commends itself alike for being entirely vegetable—free from opiates, poisons and narcotics—and for its prompt efficacy, as demonstrated by practical tests.

Baltimore, Md., Feb. 12, 1885.

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If you are suffering from general debility, nervous prostration, sinking spells, etc., superinduced by impure blood, weak kidneys and liver, etc., do not resort to alcoholic compounds, nor use remedies that cause too great activity of the parts affected. It is far more wise to use a mild alterative like **Dr. Guysott's Yellow Dock and Sarsaparilla.** This remedy contains nothing injurious to the most delicate constitution, and its use gradually builds up and strengthens, while diuretic and cathartic compounds tear down, wear out and destroy.

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