

Rocky Mountain Husbandman.

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Rocky Mountain Husbandman.

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The ROCKY MOUNTAIN HUSBANDMAN is designed to be, as the name indicates, a husbandman in every sense of the term, embracing in its columns every department of Agriculture, Stock-raising, Horticulture, Social and Domestic Economy.

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Agricultural.

In order to keep up a good table the whole summer through, it is necessary to have plenty of fresh vegetables. To have these the farmer must continue to put in garden until the last of June. Garden seeds should be planted every two weeks from the earliest possible moment the ground can be worked up to the last of June, and some vegetables may be put in even later. Turnips, for instance, should not be sown before the tenth of July, where they are intended for winter use, as they will otherwise become pithy and hollow.

HOW TO PLOW WELL.

In the first place have your plow sharp. Even a good workman will not be able to do good work with bad tools. It is not enough to turn over a clean furrow. Good plowing means the thorough pulverization of the soil, and the best plowman is he who can break up the ground into the finest particles. Plow an inch or so deeper each year and thus deepen your seed-bed and bring the subsoil into contact with light and air for their chemical operations. You can never go too deep provided you go slowly. Never be in a hurry at this kind of work. If you have not the time to do your work just right, make the time. One acre well plowed is worth two acres half way done. If a rock or a root or any other obstruction is in your way stop and get rid of it entirely. If it is a rock put it on your fence or throw it into a sink hole; never let it bother you again; dispose of it at once. Do not ride on your plow handles. Your team has straight enough to overcome without your business adding fifty pounds more. Riding on the handles never does good work. When done take your plow and clean it well and put it under cover out of the way of wet and moisture, which, like rot, soon destroy a valuable implement.—*Ex.*

TURKISH AGRICULTURE.

I see in your paper of April 8th a statement that Leynham has sent out to the neighborhood of Aintab a combined hoe and scarifier, together with forty-one sacks of seeds, and that others are going to send out seed potatoes. I have lately been at and around Aintab, and having spent many years in Turkey, I know the Turk well, and I heartily pity all now suffering from famine, and I think I shall be rendering assistance to the distressed if I point out that to send agricultural implements to Asia Minor is quite useless. At Aintab, and in all the region round about there, the only implement that is, or ever has been used, is a rough wooden plow that just

scratches the surface of the ground. It can be made in half an hour out of the first tree one comes to, and is so light that I have seen a boy carrying one in front of him on a donkey. The Turk never changes a custom. He is used to his plow and will stick to it. He is used to famine, and would prefer to starve rather than use an *à la Franca* implement; therefore, I confidently assert that the combined hoe and scarifier will never be used, and I doubt if it will ever be removed from the place where it is disembarked. Again, it is very kind to send out seeds. They will do good, but not in the way intended. The Turk will say, "Let the morrow look out for itself," and will eat the seeds directly he gets them, and as soon as he has digested them he will be as badly off as ever. No; it good is to be done, send money to buy food, or send rice and flour. Send these to an European—our consul, for instance—or better still, to some of the American missionaries, and then every penny spent will be doing good. Will Englishmen never grasp the idea that the Turk is unchangeable in the smallest degree, and that as the father is so is the son? What did the father will do for the son? As he rejects the reforms of European statesmen, so will he reject the scarifier. His father always fed—when they had food; so send out food, and the Turk of to-day will eat, live, and be moderately thankful, and his kind European friends will be saved the trouble of buying and shipping the useless implements.—*A Traveler in the London Daily News.*

USES OF THE POTATO.

In France farina is largely used for culinary purposes. The famed gravies, sauces, and soups of France are largely indebted for their excellence to that source, and its bread and pastry equally so, while a great deal of the so-called cognac, imported into England from France, is the product of the potato. Throughout Germany the same uses are common. In Poland the manufacture of spirits from the potato is a most extensive trade. "Stettin brandy," well known in commerce, is largely imported into England and is sent from thence to many of her foreign possessions as the produce of the grape, and is placed on many a table of England as the same, while the fair ladies of our country perfume themselves with the spirit of potato, under the designation *eau de Cologne*. But there are other uses which this esculent is turned to abroad. After extracting the farina the pulp is manufactured into ornamental articles, such as picture frames, snuff boxes, and several descriptions of toys, and the water that runs from it in the process of manufacture is a most valuable scourer. For perfectly cleansing woollens and such like articles, it is the housewife's panacea, and if the washerwoman happens to have chilblains she becomes cured by the operation.

HUNGARIAN GRASS.

Comparatively few farmers raise this crop, though it is very productive, and excellent for most kinds of stock, if fed in the proper manner. The time between sowing and harvesting is shorter than for any field crop raised on farms. It is useless in this latitude to sow it early in the season. To produce a good crop the entire growth of the plant must take place during very warm weather. If sown at the same time oats are the plants will make a very slow growth, and will remain stunted during the entire season. The trouble some farmers have experienced with Hungarian hay has arisen mainly from allowing the grass to remain uncut till the seed was nearly or quite ripe. It should be harvested as soon as the seeds form and before they have commenced to mature. Another difficulty has arisen from the amount of dust Hungarian grass often contains. As it grows on land that was recently plowed and harvested, and over the surface of which there is no sod, much dust is likely to be disturbed in raking and pitching the hay. This may be prevented very largely by cutting the grass quite high, and by gathering it when it is cured with a hand-rake instead of with a horse-rake. If gathered in this way and pitched on the cart when the ground is moist with dew, nearly all the dust usually found in Hungarian hay may be avoided.—*Ag. Dept. Chicago Times.*

FARM GATES.

Hon. Geo. Geddes gives, in the *Country Gentleman*, the following method of making what he considers the best farm gate: Take two boards twelve feet by six inches for top and bottom; three intermediate ones twelve feet by five inches; one for main brace thirteen feet by six inches, to reach from upper hinge (at top of gate) to foot of latch post; one twelve feet by four inches, to cover all top of gate; two four feet and four inches by six inches for hinge post; five same length by four inches for latch post and three vertical braces. He makes the spaces, counting from the top eight, seven, six and five inches, discarding any hing projecting above the gate, and binding all well together by a strong hinge at the top, around the uprights and the end of the hinge being well bolted.

THE FUTURE.

Any one acquainted with the condition of our milling interests at the present time be convinced that the present is but a transition stage, a sort of period of trial and experiment, the end of which can hardly be foreseen. While the great mass of millers have been educating themselves up to the New Process, the progressive leaders have gone far in advance, and the New Process of to-day, as practiced in many of our mills, differs from that of four years ago as much as the latter did from our old system of low grinding. Wide and sweeping changes have been made in the method of grinding in our best mills, and though the New Process has been hopelessly complicated beyond possibility of recognition, no definite results have been obtained. It is true that better results have been obtained than by the simple grinding, purifying and regrinding of three or four years ago; but we venture to say that few mills have any settled scheme of milling to which they invariably adhere. The introduction of rolls at different stages in the process of milling and reducing of the wheat twice, three or more times instead of once as formerly, has brought many new products into the problem of milling, and it is perhaps safe to say that most of our millers are quite at a loss how to test some of these products in the best manner.

This transition state of affairs augers well for the future of our milling. Our millers are not groping in the dark, but are pursuing what they know to be the right path, although they can hardly see at present to where it will lead them. Those who are in the van are well assured that the New Process, as it was understood three years ago, is not the system for the future, but merely the beginning of it, and the first lesson in improved milling. While the great mass of millers will, without doubt, continue grinding on the New Process, the large merchant mills will, doubtless, in the near future employ gradual reduction systems of some sort. Many of them now do, and we might say that each day sees an expansion of their ideas in favor of high grinding, repeated purifications and regrindings.

It certainly would be premature to discuss the probable result of this tendency to elaborate on the present system of milling. One effect will be the introduction of more machinery, and in many instances the enlargement of the mill buildings. On our system of milling itself, we have no doubt that the effect will be to transform it to gradual reduction in some shape, in the large mills, and to influence, more or less, the character of milling in the smaller establishments. Without a doubt change will come, but it will certainly be a change for the better.

We think that the Exhibition at Cincinnati will do much towards toning up the general character of our milling, and breaking down false ideas and mistaken practices. The truth is, that such a multitude of instances of improved machinery has appeared on the market in the past few years that the miller has not had and opportunity to "catch up." It is a fact capable of demonstration that our mill machinery is far in advance of our millers, progressive and intelligent though the latter be. Our improved milling machinery is excellent from beginning to end, and a proper appreciation of its uses and capabilities will materially help in settling the question of the milling of the future.—*American Miller.*

The Poultry Yard.

POULTRY FOR PROFIT.

Profitable poultry keeping depends so much on careful and intelligent management that it is not strange so many farmers, who consider that hens can take care of themselves, realize but scanty returns from this important branch of husbandry. Farmers who fail to supply warm shelter for their fowls in winter, or who fail to furnish proper food, must expect to get eggs only when they command the lowest market price.

One may have the best known breed of poultry and yet fail of remunerative returns if he manages badly. What is worth doing at all is worth doing well. It is true with a large range fowls need but little extra feeding in summer. Care should be taken that they are supplied with fresh, pure water in abundance both summer and winter. Many shiftless persons allow the hens to depend alone upon rain water or snow to slake their thirst.

To secure a good return from eggs during the winter season, when high prices are the rule, proper feeding is necessary; the fowls should be regularly fed two or three times a day. Their first food in the morning should be of a soft nature and mixed warm. A good plan is to mix it with boiling hot water the day before its use, allowing it to cook. This soft food should not be composed entirely of corn meal, as it is of too fattening a nature. Scraps and shorts should be added, also cayenne pepper in moderation. The other meals of the day may consist of whole grains or cracked corn. To supply needed exercise, grain may be scattered about among leaves or earth.

Absolute cleanliness will insure the best results. The night's droppings should be cleaned up daily. No farmer would think of leaving the manure of his horses and cattle under their feet month after month, or even for a single week, yet in hundreds of instances poultry are allowed to roost over their droppings, from which continually emanate noxious gases, injurious to the health and well being of the fowls. Large amounts of valuable fertilizer may be obtained from a flock of hens. If gathered daily a barrel of manure may be secured from seventy-five hens each month. A neighbor states that last year he raised an acre of fine corn, the only fertilizer used being five barrels of hen manure, while the result was comparatively as large as though \$25 worth of cow manure had been used instead. If the roost are placed about a foot above a broad shelf, the cleaning-up process is greatly facilitated. My experience shows a net profit of at least one dollar to each bird from their eggs alone, beside the item of dressed poultry and manure. Farmers should give increased attention to profitable poultry raising.—*Prairie Farmer.*

HEN TALK.

Some people talk "horse," others talk "cow," and so on; so we will "talk hen," for hens, when well cared for and properly managed, are a very profitable and desirable live stock to have on the farm.

The day for \$100 and \$50-a-piece chicks has about passed, and we can now get fair specimens of almost any of the noted breeds, pure bred birds, at from two to five dollars each, and in exceptional cases lower; so farmers who wish to improve their flocks of common fowls, can do so by a moderately small outlay of cash for breeding cocks or cockerels. If layers are the desired qualities, the Leghorns are the ones to select males from, while, where flesh is the main object, the Asiatic—the Light, the Dark Brahmas and the Cochins—are the "heavy weights" on the list.

There are now hundreds of breeders of fine, pure-bred fowls scattered over our vast country, and eggs or young birds can be bought at such moderate figures, it seems to us that the farmers should try to have their flocks pure instead of mixed blood; for a single trio of birds will, in only one season, produce quite a flock of young chicks—enough to start a fair sized yard of pure breeds the next year.

Plenty of good, suitable food, care, shelter and cleanliness are the secrets of success, and good "winter layers" are pro-

duced principally in that way, while much the same course is pursued in summer, to make them profitable layers in that season. Meat food for chickens confined during the breeding season in yards, may be very good, but too much soon engenders disease or effectually stops the laying. In winter it is necessary in moderate quantities. For a regular feed, good, sound wheat is the very best for laying fowls; though an occasional feed of corn, oats, soft food, etc., comes in well to keep the birds healthy and their appetites good. Fresh water must be supplied daily, winter and summer, while plenty of whitewash must be applied, inside and out, to the buildings and fences each spring and fall. New nests must be made, the excrement kept cleaned up, and birds fed regularly and liberally, and you can then count on a fair and liberal measure of profit from your flock.

The Household.

Molasses Sponge Cake.—Two cups of molasses, two eggs, two tablespoonfuls of soda, three-quarters of a cup of cold water, five cups of flour.

Cleaning Mica.—The mica in stoves can be cleaned by taking equal parts of vinegar and water. Wash when a little warm. Wipe with a dry cloth. It will look nearly as good as when new.

Ingrowing Nails.—Take a little tallow and put it into a spoon and heat it over the lamp until it becomes very hot; then put it on the sore or granulation. The effect will be almost magical. The operation causes very little pain if the tallow is perfectly heated.

Apple Shortcake.—Fill a square bread tin three-quarters full of sliced sour apples; make a thick batter of half cupful of sour cream, half a cupful of buttermilk, one teaspoonful of saleratus, a little salt, and flour to make quite stiff—a little stiffer than cake. Turn this over the apples; bake 30 minutes and serve with sauce, or cream and sugar flavored with nutmeg.

Strawberry Pudding.—Cream, a cup of sugar and a tablespoonful of butter; add the beaten yolks of five eggs and two cups of fine bread crumbs soaked in a quart of sweet milk. Flavor with lemon or vanilla. Pour into a deep pudding dish and bake until the custard is "set." Roll a pint of nice strawberries in powdered sugar, spread over the pudding and cover with a meringue made of beaten whites and three tablespoonfuls of powdered sugar. Return to the oven until the top is delicately browned.

Whitewash Paint.—One bushel unslaked lime, 20 pounds Spanish whiting, 17 pounds rock salt, 12 pounds brown sugar. Mix lime with 40 gallons of water, and then add the other ingredients and stir well together. Put on two or three coats with a whitewash brush. It does not wash nor rub off, but looks well and preserves the wood. It can be mixed with yellow ochre, Indian red, raw umber or lampblack to make it any color desired. The amount given is sufficient to paint all the out houses and yard fences on an ordinary farm.

Home Soap Making.—Soft Soap from Concentrated Lye.—Dissolve a pound of concentrated lye in three gallons of water. Boil it with four pounds of clear soap fat, and when the grease is all cut, set it away to cool. Add a gallon of hot water to this solution and stir it in well; in the course of a few hours put in another gallon, and continue adding water until the soap is of the desired consistency. To make hard soap of this, stir in common salt, but an easier way would be to substitute washing soda for a portion of the potash and use some lime with it.

Newport Pudding.—Set a plain mould in ice; put in a thin layer of clear jelly at the bottom, which decorate tastefully with dried cherries and pistachios; cover with another layer of jelly, decorate the sides in the same manner, dipping the cherries, etc., in jelly first to make them adhere; place a mould lining within, and fill the space between the two moulds with jelly by degrees; when set, fill the lining with warm water, and quietly withdraw it; fill up with following custard: Make a hot custard of one pint of cream and six yolks of eggs, sweetened and flavored to taste; add about one ounce of clarified isinglass; Serve with cold German sauce round the base.