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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.

WILD roses bedeck every stream and perfume every dell.

Sow turnips for winter use anytime between this and the twentieth, for table use.

FRUIT men all say the best way to treat trees infested with borers is to remove the earth about the base of the trunk. Fill up the hollow after freezing weather is well under way.

It is said that nearly 100,000 acres of Kansas soil have been planted with trees under act of Congress authorizing additional protection where trees are planted. The cottonwood tree is mainly planted because it grows rapidly.

THE man who claims that he "knows all about farming," whether he be a scientist or a practical farmer, establishes as a fact that he really knows very little. The field is quite too wide for the capacity or lifetime of one man.

TIMOTHY generally makes the best hay if allowed to ripen well before cutting, but with wild meadows it is different. Stock seem to like the early cut grass the best. However as it is still seasonable the meadows will continue to grow and there is no hurry about beginning the hay harvest.

I. J. THOMAS says: Young fruit trees which were set out last autumn, or this spring, will be more sure to live and grow well if the soil about them is kept clean and mellow and a hard crust not allowed to form for a distance of at least two or three feet on each side. If from any cause this care can not be given them, mulch the ground a few inches in thickness with chaff, sawdust, old or half-rotten straw, or anything of a similar character which shall hold the moisture at the surface.

DR. VOELCKER found that a solution of twenty-four grains of salt to a pint of water gave a fresher appearance to cabbages and radishes. A less amount of salt showed no effect. A very strong solution harms many plants. The plants most benefited by salt are cabbages, celery, asparagus, onions, radishes, and tomatoes. Grasses are affected more readily by salt than any other crops, and it is of especial advantage to bulbous plants and plants with succulent leaves. Salt is taken up into the body of the plant without decomposition.

THE Department of Agriculture reports the condition of winter wheat is not so encouraging as it was a month ago, the general average being 75 per cent of a good crop. Spring wheat, on the contrary, is

represented as in exceptionally good condition, and the area has been increased nearly five per cent. The total acreage is about 2,350,000 acres. Its condition averages about ninety-seven per cent. The increase in the area of oats is about four per cent. The area is about 19,300,000 acres. The condition of the crop is high, averaging ninety-six per cent.

ATTEND TO YOUR DAILY WALK.

FARMER friend, did you ever think of the number of trips you make daily from your house to the barn, and that you make them either on bare ground or in the snow? In the winter you come in with your feet loaded with snow, and in the spring with mud. Now, why not make a good plank walk between your two abiding places, and in the winter see to it that the snow is shoveled off it? Just think how good natured your wife will look when she sees you come in from the barn, "dry shod"—and build that walk without delay.—*American Farm and Home.*

DESTROYING CUT-WORMS.

Hints in the subjoined extract from *Truck Farming at the South* may be available:

The grower of cabbages, tomatoes, etc., on a small scale can readily protect his plants from cut-worms by surrounding their stems with paper for a short distance below and above the surface, and leaves have been used for the same purpose. Hills of melons, cucumbers, etc., may have the plants surrounded by a hoop or other barrier. Another method, useful in small gardens, is to

worms in subjection, and the mole probably destroys many. Birds are useful, and domestic poultry may be serviceable in destroying them.

FRUIT FOR THE FARMER.

An exchange says fruit and grain crops are apt to interfere with each other, and the tastes that makes a man expert in one does not generally apply to the other. But this fact need not and should not prevent their culture for family use on a small scale. The small fruits simply require good land, the richer the better, and then clean culture. The practice of planting strawberry in beds, in pinched up gardens, has done much to discourage their culture, because then all the work must be done by hand. Blackberries and raspberries are planted, if planted at all, next to the fence, where they grow in a tangled thicket, and soon become unbearable nuisances. All small fruits should be planted in an open field somewhere, not far from the house, in long rows, so that horse culture can be given on each side. The number of rows needed will depend, of course, on the length and size of the family, but if well cared for it will not require many. For instance: Five hundred hills of strawberries, set eighteen inches apart, and five hundred more each of raspberries and blackberries, three feet apart, would go a long way towards supplying a family two or three times a day during the season; but if not enough, experience would show it, when the number could be increased or better care given. This number would occupy

of to-day, who would claim the honor of having originated this breed, as of a greater importance than a seat in Congress, while all other known breeds have equally ardent admirers. The study of cause and effect is nowhere more intensely interesting than in this particular field of effort, and no one will dispute the fact that a great deal of improvement has been made in the last generation. But why cannot those who would gladly have originated some of the existing popular breeds, now turn their attention to future possibilities, and see what may be accomplished by persistent and intelligent effort, with a definite and worthy object in view?

A great deal has been accomplished, but the end is not yet. We have improved breeds, but there is room for greater improvement. The most valuable and popular fowl of to-day has many imperfections we might easily point out. It is safe to say that the breed that will be attracting special attention fifty years hence is not popular, perhaps not known at all, at this date. Some grand improvements will result from a mixture of bloods, the product, better than either parent, will be perfected and developed by systematic selection and care, and somebody will be the benefactor who has accomplished this, whether he gets the full credit for it or not. There will never be a time when perfection has been attained, and nothing remains to be sought for.—*Poultry and Farm Journal.*

We quote, in the same connection, the following article from the *Poultry World* of

time when savage, or semi-savage men first brought fowls from Asia to Europe—would determine the style of fowl in a large section of country. Variations brought about in succeeding centuries would produce certain breeds as the Spanish, Leghorn, Hamburg, La Fletche, Polish, etc.

Among civilized men the facilities for transportation have rendered colonization possible; so the people move together in large numbers, taking fowls with them, and often mixing the breed. Out of this mixture there comes, almost by chance, something valuable. Witness, in the first place, the Dominique, and later the Plymouth Rock. There is no sense in taking the position in regard to breeds or varieties of fowls that we have advanced far enough, that we must shut the book, and think it undesirable to add to the number of recognized breeds. Once in a while a new breed will force itself into notice by certain good qualities, and never need any pushing. At the first exhibition of Plymouth Rocks they 'took.' They became popular without any clap-net.

If a traveler takes notice, he will see in some sections of this country, not the old 'natives,' as the common farm fowls were called twenty years ago, but a mixture of the fancy breed. Every man who comes out of that disease called 'hen fever,' and makes a clearing out sale, as some do, scatters some good seed. Not all the people will be fanciers, or keep distinct breeds. Common fowls, such as farmers keep, have been improved. What a mixture of European nations there will be in this country several centuries hence! The blood of English, French, German, Norwegian, etc., will mingle. Will this make a grand race? The future chickens will be like the people in blood—a mixture. But among the former, certain influences will keep some families 'pure blooded,' and among the latter, fanciers will see to it that the valuable breeds are kept pure, and not merged in the common flock called mongrels."

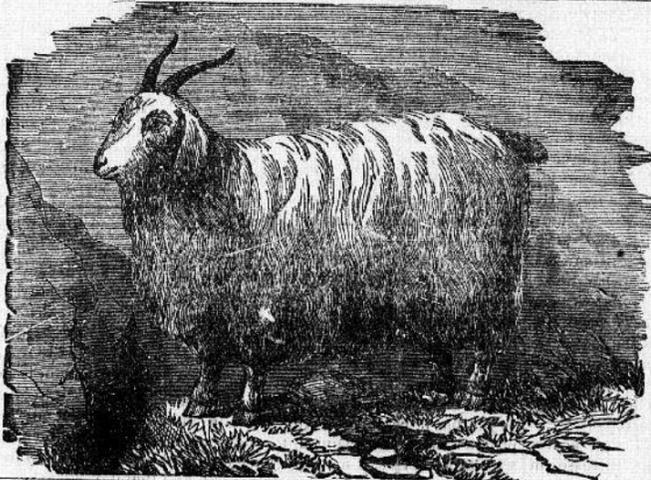
Mongrels are the assorted and dissimilar individuals in whose veins the blood of various birds is mixed in unknown and irregular quantities, and as a rule the mixture has been growing constantly more and more uncertain and undefinable by successive generations of hap-hazard breeding. But he who by intention or accident produces a cross known to contain certain blood and possessing valuable characteristics, and seeks to make use of the hint thus supplied by nature, to follow up the idea and develop a fixed and improved type of a new name and order, is on the right track, and should hold to his purpose in the face of all discouragements.

The Household.

To make a Gloss upon Shirts.—To secure a gloss when ironing shirts, take of raw starch one ounce; gum arabic, one drachm; white of an egg or blood albumen, half an ounce; water, 7 s. Make the starch into a fine cream, dissolve the gum in a little hot water, cool and mix it with the albumen, and beat up the mixture with the starch liquid; then add the water-glass (solution) and shake together. Moisten the starched lined with a cloth dipped in this liquid, and use a polishing iron to develop the gloss.

Scalloped Chicken.—Cut cold roast or boiled chicken as for salad. Season it nicely with pepper, salt, minced onions and parsley. Moisten it with chicken gravy or cream sauce; fill scalloped shells with the mixture and sprinkle bread crumbs over the tops. Put two or three pieces of butter the size of a small white bean upon each, and brown them quickly in a hot oven.

Ginger Lemonade.—Boil 12½ pounds of lump sugar for twenty minutes in ten gallons of water; clear it with the white of eggs; bruise half a pound of ginger, boil with the liquor, and then pour it upon ten lemons, pared. When quite cold put it into a cask, with two table-spoonfuls of yeast, the lemons sliced, and one-half ounce isinglass; bung up the cask the next day; it will be ready in a fortnight, and will prove a most refreshing beverage.



THE ANGORA GOAT.

make holes in the soil near the plants, singly by means of a small stick, or in clusters by means of an implement which will make several holes at one operation. The worms hide in these, where they may be killed the next morning by use of the same stick or implement. But the fields of the truck farmer contain so many plants that any remedy to be practicable must be more general in its application. Dr. Oenler finds it the best plan to clear the land of cut-worms before the plants are transplanted. By placing cabbage leaves and bunches of grass along the rows of hills of about a fourth of an acre of water-melons, and examining them daily he captured fifteen hundred and thirty-eight worms, before the seed came up, and lost but a single melon plant by the worms. He once captured fifty-eight worms under a single turnip leaf. His present method is to poison the worms. After the land is prepared for cabbage or any other crop liable to be injured by the cut-worms, he takes cabbage or turnip leaves and dips them in a bucket of water into which a table-spoonful of Paris green has been well stirred; or the leaves are first moistened and dusted with one part of Paris green to twenty of flour. The leaves thus poisoned are laid in rows across the field, fifteen at twenty feet apart and at the same distance in the rows, being careful to place the dusted surface next to the ground. By repeating this at intervals of three or four days, the field is cleared at less expense and trouble than by any other method. There are several insect enemies, parasitic and others, that help keep cut-

less than five rows across a fifty-rod field, and would be almost an insignificant patch on a hundred-acre farm, as regards space or the time necessary to give to it; and yet, unless the fruit could be bought very low at the door, it would yield an amount in delight and health not possible to produce in any other way. Strawberries, particularly, are not surpassed in popularity and health-giving properties by any fruit in the world, unless it be peaches, and peaches are more difficult to grow. The horse work can be done in a few minutes by a man, while women and children can pull the runners from strawberry hills and the weeds that the cultivator does not touch, as well as the trifle of clipping that raspberries and blackberries require when the young canes are growing. The cutting out of the old wood, and the shortening in the laterals any man of sense, or even a stout boy or woman, can do in a little time as spring advances, so there is no just reason why a family should be deprived of such luxuries.

The Poultry Yard.

OUR ULTIMATUM NOT REACHED.

The different breeds of pure-bred poultry, now including so many varieties, present wonderful illustrations of what may be done by selection, and by the varying causes of climate, food, and the thousand and one incidentals that affect the habits and mold the characteristics of domestic animals. There are many admirers of the Plymouth Rocks

last month, under the head of Fancy Fowls: "By the term fancy poultry we mean those breeds that have been so improved as to be set apart, each breed having some distinctive quality or qualities, valued and fixed by an authoritative standard. Fowls vary so much under domestication that it has been easy to select, and obtain in a few years a certain uniformity of color; and no doubt the origin of breed may have been due to the fancy of some individual who lived hundreds of years ago, acting with method and motive. Something that is odd or queer appears—it may be in the form, size, comb, color of face, beak, or legs. It is easy to make an end of these oddities with the ax. By putting them with the culls we stop variation; by selecting these specimens for breeders, mating those together having the same variation most marked, a beginning is made—the first step is taken toward a fixed style or fancy. The process may be greatly accelerated by the appearance luckily of a male that has the variation well marked, and fortunately the power of stamping his peculiarities on his progeny, so that nearly all are like their sire. Then the great difficulty of breeding to "feather" is in a great measure removed. Blood begins to tell more surely, and years, we should say ages, to stamp the work that some persons, viewing breeds very unlike, as the Asiatics and the Games, are tempted to doubt the theory that all our gallinaceous fowls have a common origin.

Climate has undoubtedly some influence in forming breeds. But the first importation to a country—as for instance at the distant