

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.

THREE welcome, joyous, happy, merry springtime.

Speed the plow from purple morn until dusky evening.

Much of our new land is in excellent condition for breaking this spring.

A BOUNTIFUL harvest almost invariably succeeds a long snowy winter.

Sow a few acres of peas and grow sufficient hogs for home consumption.

If you want to grow large potatoes, cut one eye to the piece, and drop two pieces in a hill.

Sow while the land is moist, for the grain will germinate and come forth without irrigation.

TURNIPAS may be sown early, but turnips, except a few for early use, should not be sown until the last of June.

THE garden spot should be thoroughly enriched with manure. It will not pay to garden except in dry, rich soil.

THERE is a better time coming to our farmers—a better time coming. It is the golden harvest time.

MONTANA gardeners are troubled less with weeds than any on earth. They find no trouble in keeping their gardens clean and neat.

THE stores of snow in the mountains are well filled and will furnish an unusual supply of water this season. Farmers may therefore calculate on having an abundant supply.

We insist that every village should appoint a day for tree planting. It would be so well for every farmer to take a day for the same purpose. Nothing will add so much to the home-like appearance of a country or village home as a nice grove of trees.

A CORRESPONDENT of the Western Rural says if anybody has grown any good Russian apples south of the Canadian line! We answer yes. The Russian variety is considered one of the best adapted to our Montana climate. The trees are hardy, and the winters well and the fruit grows large and prolific.

THE next meeting of the National Association of Nurserymen, Seedsmen and Florists, will be held at Chicago, commencing June 18. This will be a large and important meeting, as we have no more enterprising class of citizens, or one to whom the country owes more than the nurserymen, seedsmen and florists.

We published a statement last week to the effect that the Welcome oats had been examined by a friend of ours, who pronounced them a very poor variety of grain for food. The objection is a very serious one. We would be glad to have the opinion of others who may have examined or used these oats.

For growing potatoes the soil should be plowed very deep. The best crops we have seen were grown on new land that was broke the season before. It is best to not plant more than two crops in succession on the same land.

The indications now are that Montana will make more progress in the development of her mines this season than she has ever done before. Should this prove true there will be market for two and a half million bushels of oats before the harvest of 1885 is matured.

The experiments of fruit culture in Montana have been very expensive, but in every case small fruit has proven a success, and there are but few instances where the small fruit orchard has not returned a sufficient compensation for all the expense incurred in experimenting with the larger varieties.

MONTANA can grow grain and ship it to the eastern sea board cheaper than it can be grown either there or a thousand miles further west, yet the indications are that it will be many years before we will be able to produce a very great surplus, provided our mines make as much progress each succeeding year as they are making this.

THE Germantown Telegraph thus informs its readers how to grow onions "without labor." Prepare a bed, say sixteen feet square, of proper fertility, cultivate deep and rake it smooth and fine. Now, lay on a board about one foot wide at one side of

The former gleaned from the papers published from Dan to Beersheba the accounts of accidents resulting from the use of rear cut machines. The harrowing array of accidents was truly startling, and the firm seemed justified in their assertion that in view of the frequency of these accidents, rear-cut machines should not be used. Then the rival firm gleaned the newspapers for accounts of accidents resulting from the use of wagons, and presented such a formidable catalogue of injuries and deaths, that the use of wagons was apparently forever condemned.

It is so with barbed wire. Not a single case have I heard of where it had inflicted injury upon stock but that the injury was due to the gross carelessness of the farmer. And the accidents resulting from any cause, immediate or remote, in which barbed wire is concerned, are much fewer than is generally supposed. I quite frequently hear men inveigling against barbed wire on account of its dangers, and in nine cases out of ten when I ask them if they have ever known of an animal being injured by it, they are forced to answer in the negative. I have known of two animals being injured, one slightly and one seriously, in the county where I reside, but in the same time I have known of more damage being done by hedges, twice as much by rail fences, and fully twelve times as much by dogs. I doubt if one-fourth of my readers have ever known of a single animal being injured by barbed wire. We tested

success, is to make stock acquainted with the fence. Lead the horses around the new fence, stopping frequently to allow them to investigate the novelty. They will smell of the wire and get their noses jagged on the barbs, and by the time they have gone the length of the fence, they will know to their cost that there are wires between the posts, and that they are not to be fooled with. The horse is an animal of intelligence and good memory, and will not forget that the wires are there. Fifteen minutes' investigation will familiarize him with the fence, and he will never run against it or attempt to jump over it unless fear drives out all other mental operations. Cattle, hogs and sheep are rarely injured by barbed wire, but they should be driven around the fence that they may know it is there and what it is like. This done, they may be left in the field in perfect safety. I have heard it recommended that scrap tin be cut into three cornered pieces, and one corner be twisted around the top strand, the tin pieces giving warning of the fence. This I believe to be a good idea, though I have never tested it, as I never had occasion to do so.

We have quit using all wire for fences. To make a fence "pig tight and horse high," all of wire requires posts not more than eight feet apart and eight strands of wire. This is too expensive; such a fence here costs us \$435 per mile, or at the rate of \$1.35 per rod. We are now building a combination fence altogether—two boards below and three strands of wire above. We put

out of 150 germinated. They gave fifty-three heads with 682 grains. This return kept on increasing for each bed as it decreased in depth at which the seeds were planted. At 3 1/2 inches deep, ninety-three seeds sprouted, with 992 heads, yielding 18,534 grains; 142 seeds sprouted at 1 1/2 inches, growing 1,660 heads and 35,816 grains. At the one-half inch depth, sixty-four grains sprouted, growing 529 heads and 15,587 grains. On the surface only twenty germinated, yielding 1,600 grains. As a general rule, taking all soils into consideration, a one-inch covering is sufficient, more or less than that not paying so well. But the difficulty is in securing a uniform depth of covering. It is, no doubt, better to be one inch more than a half-inch less; therefore, the sower should aim to cover no less nor more than two inches. This can be accomplished with tolerable certainty when any of the improved grain drills are used, but not in sowing broadcast.—Farm and Home Encyclopedia.

The Household.

DISH WASHING.

Though many do not find "pearls in dish water," yet we know that some do find pleasure in dish-washing. When my little "maid-of-all-work" came to make her home with me, she had much to learn, and, like most girls, had no particular love for the above-mentioned duty. I told her, however, that if she would follow my directions implicitly, in less than a month she would love the work which then seemed so distasteful. As the *modus operandi* might benefit others, I will give it, believing that every duty pertaining to the housekeeper may be made pleasant, if set about in the right manner. In the first place, all milk dishes should be thoroughly cleansed and scalded. This being attended to at once, their room give more room, and the same water is useful for soaking the cooking utensils, pots, pans, etc., etc. Next, place on the stove a large tin dish-pan containing soap, or pearline and water, into which slip the plates as the table is cleared; then gather all knives, spoons and forks. These should be washed and polished before commencing on the dishes. Now remove to the table and wash from the water containing soap with a clean, clear water, from which stand perpendicularly to drain in a large tray, remembering always to use in washing a tooth-brush (kept for the purpose), about all handles, and cut glass-ware. We find the tray a great advantage, it so greatly facilitates the work of drying. After each place has found its appropriate niche in the closet or pantry, we turn our attention to the pots and kettles, when lo! a few vigorous scrapes with a broad oyster shell removes the loosened particles, and after one more wash in the water with which we have rinsed our cup towels, the dreaded dish-washing is over.—Ex.

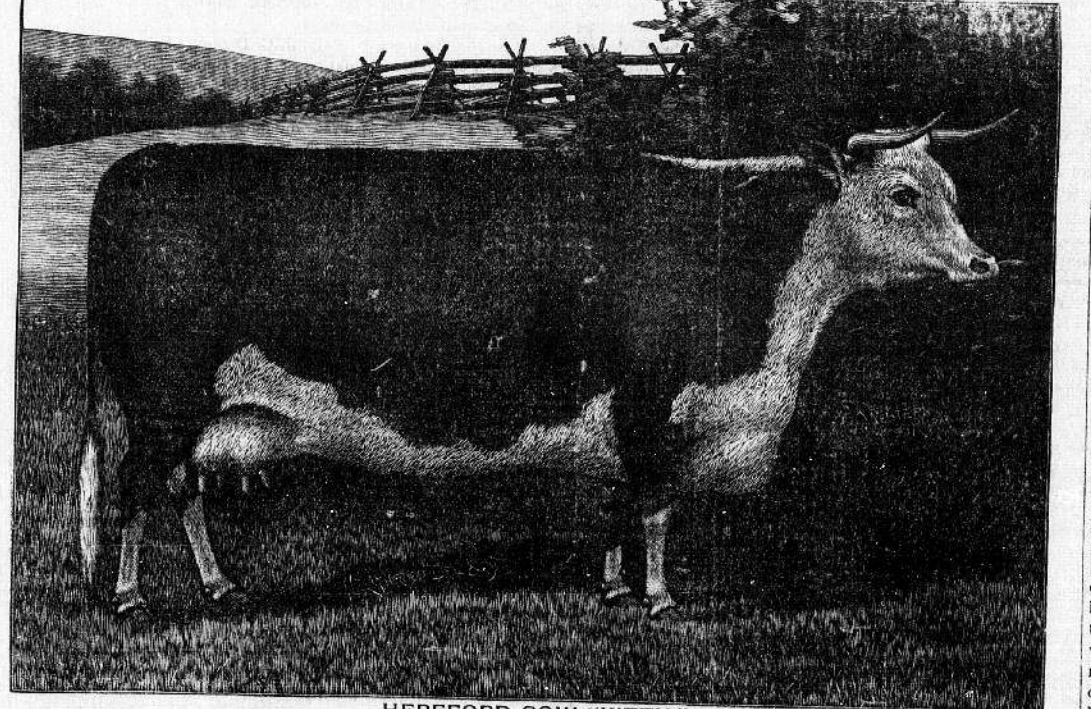
Advocate Jumbles.—One cup of butter, two cups of sugar, one cup of good rich milk, four eggs, one teaspoonful of baking powder, heaped, a little grated nutmeg and flour to roll. Dust with white of egg and sift sugar over before baking.

Tilden Cake.—One cupful of butter, 2 of sugar, 1 of sweet milk, 3 of flour, 1/2 cupful of cornstarch, 4 eggs, 2 teaspoonfuls of baking powder, and 2 of lemon extract. This is so excellent that a "bar" would not be too much of it.

Rush.—Two teaspoonfuls of raised bread dough, 1 teaspoonful of sugar, 1/2 cupful of butter, 2 well-beaten eggs, and flour enough to make a stiff dough. Set it to rise, and when light, mould into high biscuit and let rise again. Sift cinnamon and sugar over the top and place in the oven.

Orange Pudding.—Mix together a quarter of a pound each of sugar, bread crumbs and chopped suet; add the grated peel of one Saville orange and the juice of two large ones; stir in an egg, a pinch of baking powder, and enough milk to make a light paste. Boil in a basin one hour and a quarter. Serve with sweet sauce.

Pep Robin.—Take one pound of flour and add new milk, a little at a time, stir it continually with the hand until the flour is evenly mixed into small lumps; be careful not to add too much milk. Put a sufficient quantity of new milk in a stew-pan, when nearly boiling stir in the "lumped flour," a little at a time, stirring until all is added; boil from five to ten minutes, then add salt. To be eaten with cream and sugar.



HEREFORD COW "KITTY."

Property of Milton George & Bro., Rural Glen Farm, Glenwood, Ill.

your bed, stand on the board and place your sets close to the edge, say four inches apart, the entire length of the board. Now lay down another board one and a half inches from the other, place your sets as before, and proceed thus until the bed is completed. Leave on the boards until the onions have matured. Thus you will have a nice bed of onions without labor, save the preparing of the bed and placing of the sets.

DAVID W. KING, of Cayuga county, New York, states that he found the following mode of management best in setting out new plantations of strawberry: He begins one year before setting, and spreads twenty-five or thirty loads of manure to the acre in the fall, and plants corn or potatoes the next spring. These are thoroughly cultivated the season through to keep down all weeds. The strawberries when planted are kept scrupulously clean, and additionally enriched with ashes, phosphate, or liquid manure. Care is required in using straw for mulching to have it entirely free from weeds.

BARBED WIRE FENCE DEFENDED.

You touch upon a very important and timely topic in your issue of March 13th, in what you have to say in regard to "danger from Barbed wire." I am sure this danger has been greatly over-estimated. This is a large country and accidents are numerous. This was well illustrated by the pamphlets published some years ago by two rival reaper manufacturers. One manufactured a "front cut" and the other a "rear cut."

barbed wire fencing for two years and were so well pleased with it that we are now using it almost exclusively upon our farms. Our faith in it is shown by our works—we put up several miles of it last spring and expect to put up at least a thousand rods this spring. We find that it is a cheap fence to start with—cheaper than rails or boards—and that it requires less attention afterward than either board, rail or hedge fence; is stronger than any of these three, and more durable than rail or board fence.

But these are the least advantages of its use. A Virginia rail fence occupies a strip of land eight feet wide, or one acre for every mile. The use of this land is lost, and more, for the fence corners produce weeds, which must be frequently cut down or else allowed to grow to do greater damage. A hedge occupies even more land than a rail fence, for its roots spread for twenty feet on either side, and it is a gross feeder, while it harbors both weeds and animal pests. Barbed wire fencing occupies but very little ground, the weeds along it are easily kept down, and it affords no retreat for small animals; nor does it blow down in our prairie zephyrs, as do board and rail fences.

The plans you suggest to warn stock away are good. We have no cobble stones here in the West, but on our level land we can ditch in safety. And let me say here that warning stock is not the only advantage of ditching and banking. The bank saves one strand of wire, and the ditch drains the water from the posts, preserving them much longer. But the best plan of all and one which we have tried with eminent

the posts sixteen feet apart, with short posts between to which to nail the boards. Old posts which have rotted off in the ground are used for the short posts. We set the posts at least two feet deep, and then plow on either side, throwing the earth toward the posts, till we have a ridge and two ditches. Then we put on the boards and wires. Such a fence costs us \$300 per mile. This includes all materials, hauling and building. We use the best galvanized wire, with barbs three inches apart. This wire is heavier than ordinarily used, a strand a mile long weighing from 360 to 375 lbs. With a little practice the wire can be stretched and stapled very rapidly. The end posts must be well braced, or the wire will draw them out of plumb.

This is the season when farmers are preparing to renew their fences. I can assure them as the result of wide observation and no small experience, and after testing Virginia rail, post and rail, post and board and Osage orange hedge for fences, that they can find nothing better, all in all, than barbed wire. And when the monopoly of its manufacture is completely ended, as I think it will before two more years have gone, the material will be so very cheap that it will fast become the universal farm fence.—Cor. Country Gentleman.

PLANTING WHEAT.

A Frenchman experimented on the depth for planting wheat. He made thirteen beds and planted 150 grains in each, at depths beginning at seven inches, decreasing to the surface. In the seven-inch bed, five grains