

Form and Fireside.

THE LONG AGO.

Oh, a wonderful stream is the river of Time, As it glides through the realm of years...

There's a magical life up the river of Time, Where the softest airs are playing...

The Sheep Interest in Kansas.

The sheep business is beginning to set down upon a regular basis with vast proportions. The time has long passed when farmers in the eastern States could grow wool at a profit in competition first with Ohio and then with Michigan and Illinois.

Some five years ago the Texas flock-masters introduced good male animals from Vermont and Ohio with speedy favorable results, and last year the large flock-masters of New Mexico followed their example.

The Texas wool of this year is every way acceptable to manufacturers, as the total shrinkage was only about 40 per cent, and as they paid from 38 to 40 cents only per pound, and as most of it is capable of making fine de laines, the profits have been handsome.

In a few years more it is likely to be increased to three and even four pounds. The wool comes from the northern part of that State, a region of plateaus, where the grass is fine and rich.

The increase of the wool product of California has been almost miraculous, and it is estimated that the clip of this year will reach 60,000,000 of pounds against 32,000,000 in 1873.

But, with such advantages, the business is far from being popular; for the reason that constant attention is required. The sheep must be in sight of a shepherd all day long, and their condition must be watched by an experienced eye with the view of providing remedies in detail whenever needed.

FLAVOR FOR FROSTING.—In frosting for cakes or puddings, a little lemon juice, tartaric acid or cream of tartar is a very pleasant addition to the taste, besides making the frosting much lighter.

Two cords of hard wood are about equal in heat-giving qualities to one ton of bituminous coal.

Rub the buckwheat cake griddle with half a turnip, to make the cakes come off nicely. This is better than fat.

Where to Plant trees.

Many trees are annually lost because they are planted in situations which are unsuited to their growth. The planter is too apt to select the varieties which he wants, and plant them wherever he wants trees, regardless of the soil or location.

The rough stony land which is almost worthless for pasture, may almost always be planted with trees, and made one of the most valuable parts of the farm, instead of a barren, worthless spot.

Belgium, strictly speaking, has no distinct race of cattle, all are either Short-horns, or a cross called Durham-Dutch, and another not bad milkers, known as the Ardennaise.

The excellence of Belgium cattle may be attributed also to the importance attached to their manure, which, with deep tillage, constitute the elements of successful farming.

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Need of Commercial Habits on the Farm.—The time has now arrived when it becomes necessary, in order to make farming pay, that it must be conducted more on business principles than formerly.

When an iron poker becomes soft by long usage, it can be hardened by heating to a redness and plunging several times in a pall of cold water.

Ink stains may be removed from books by wetting the spot with a solution of oxalic acid, 1 oz., water 1 pint.

Linen can be glazed by adding a teaspoonful of salt and one of finely scraped white soap to a pound of starch.

Union Among Farmers.

It is a matter of regret that there is not a greater concert of action in the farming community. Union is strength and if the farmers could ever work together, they could rule the country, so to speak, that is, they could carry their point in any important public measure, which may have a bearing upon their interests.

We all know that politicians, lawyers, merchants, manufacturers, predominate in Congress. The farming interest has less weight there than any other profession. And yet our farmers, instead of voting for a man who is either a farmer or wholly identified with their interest, will continue to vote and choose a manufacturer or a lawyer or a merchant to represent them in preference to a farmer who is equally able.

Kerosene oil is good for removing rust from cutlery.

As gold is purified in the furnace, so is character refined by pain.

Drunkenness makes some men fools, some beasts and some devils.

Water window plants with tepid water, and wash the leaves often.

Do you wish men to speak well of you then never speak well of yourself.—Fascial.

Those who have few affairs to attend to are great speakers. The less men think the more they talk.

The superintendent of the Michigan state prison has organized an orchestra among the convicts.

Time is a stream in which there is no mooring the banks of life, because there is no casting anchor in it.

The happiest people in the United States just now are those of Lebanon, O. Two circles are to winter there.

The genius who is to invent a practical substitute for work has not been born—and never will be.

It is stated that some of the Pennsylvania manufacturers and capitalists are organizing anti-Grange societies.

The editor of a Nevada newspaper gives notice that he cannot be bribed with a five cent cigar to write a five-dollar puff.

A Kentucky editor speaks of a local genius who has been a persevering contributor to the office waste basket for several years.

A New Orleans paper offers the sentiment that: "George Washington—First in war, first in peace, and last in getting a monument."

It is said that the reason why Eli Perkins never lectures twice in the same town is because money is so tight and the price of eggs is so high.

They who know the truth are not equal to those who revere it, and they who revere it are not equal to those who find pleasure in it.

A Milwaukee woman's bonnet cost on a average, about \$15 but she has the bill made out for \$30 or \$40, in order to show it to the women next door.

Among recent applicants for charity turkeys in Boston, was a woman who kept boarders, and a man with diamond studs who wanted "one for his brother."

An Indiana Judge has decided that if a woman will shorten pie-crust with butter at thirty-eight cents per pound, her husband has good grounds for a divorce.

A Yankee editor as he threw up the sponge remarked: "It don't pay to run a paper in a town where business men read almanacs and pick their teeth with their jack-knives."

GRAHAM MUFFINS.—1 egg, a little sugar, 1 pint sour milk, 1 teaspoonful of soda, flour enough to thicken; bake in a quick oven, 2 or 3 teaspoonfuls of sour cream with the milk improves them.

CHEAP MOLASSES GINGERBREAD.—1 tablespoonful lard, 1 cupful good molasses, 1 cupful boiling water, 1 teaspoonful ginger, 1 of soda, salt and flour. This is a very nice breakfast or tea cake, eaten hot with butter.

Gen. Butler tells of a civil service candidate writing against the question, "What is the distance of the sun from the earth?" that he couldn't tell the exact distance, but he didn't think it was near enough to interfere with his duties as Postoffice clerk.

The Cincinnati Commercial is of the opinion that a double-barreled shot gun would afford the most effective test of the genuineness of materialized spirits.

Shot and gun powder, it believes, are the only certain cure for the appearance of imposters at the spook hole.

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Are you so languid that any exertion requires more of an effort than you feel capable of making?

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