

Poetic Drifts.

THE ORIGIN OF SCANDAL.

Said Mrs. A. To Mrs. B. In quite a confidential way. "It seems to me That Mrs. B. Takes too much—something in her tea."

The Farmer.

SILK AND WOOL.

Abstract of a Report Made to the Agricultural Society of Philadelphia, April 2, by Dr. Edmund C. Evans, Mr. Harry Ingersoll and Mr. Paschall Morris, a Committee Appointed at the Previous Meeting to Report on Silk and Wool.

WOOL IN THE UNITED STATES.

The area of farming land in the United States is 407,000,000 acres, of which 190,000,000 are improved land, and of the remainder 159,000,000 are wood land.

In looking over the history of sheep husbandry in this country, we find one of the greatest obstacles to its success and extension, is the dread of dogs.

142,000,000 pounds, sheep in 1869-70 34,000,000, and of wool 133,000,000 pounds (the manufacturing census have this 168,000,000 pounds); sheep in 1871 32,000,000, and of wool 128,000,000 pounds; sheep in 1872 31,600,000, and of wool quantity not received.

The New England States, New York, New Jersey and Pennsylvania, show a decrease in the number of cattle and oxen, (not including cows); and if Illinois and Ohio be added, there is an increase of but 300,000 over 1860. In sheep, the States first named, are short one million. It is true that the sixteen Southern States show a diminution of about 500,000 cattle, and not quite one million of sheep; these figures, however, would not materially affect the result.

We all know that labor will do nearly as much for the corn crop as manure, and that with manure and without labor, we cannot have a good corn crop. In the West, though the Census tables show a large return for corn in the aggregate, we must not forget that a very large part of the crop is left to waste, so that the wealth of the country is thus much lost.

It seems incredible that the farmers of the country should so neglect sheep husbandry. In 1871, over the vast domain of 190,000,000 acres of improved lands, and with our population of 38,000,000, we produced but 128,000,000 pounds of wool, and imported 68,000,000 millions of pounds.

SPAVIN.—The use of simple ointments or tinctures will do no harm, and may have the desired effect. Diluted tincture of arnica, used as a wash, will be found beneficial; bathe the parts with it four or five times a day; or anoint the parts with Wigg's Horsebalm Ointment, rubb well in. Avoid for the present all violent exercise. —Turk, Field and Farm.

Going West. The American Farmer, says:—We would like to hear of a case similar to that stated in the annexed paragraph, of any one who has emigrated to the West under parallel circumstances, faring as well, or likely to do so, as this Mr. Stamp, who in his native country was an ordinary laborer, but who, instead of "going West" to reaching our shores, turned his face South, and went to work on shares, with the result to be given by the editor of Trevelter's Exeter (Eng.) Flying Post, of Jan 29, one of the English papers received at the office of the American Farmer:—

COTTON IN ITS RAW STATE.—Mr. Hemenes, of St. Sidwell, has received from America a fine sample of cotton as taken from a plant. It was sent to him by a very fortunate Etonian—Thomas Stamp, formerly in the employ of Mr. Luscombe, builder, of St. Sidwell as horse-keeper. Some two years since Stamp emigrated to America, and soon after his arrival engaged with a planter to give his services for a portion of the proceeds from the culture of the plantation; and at the end of the first year Stamp became part proprietor of the estate. He is now the sole proprietor of it, so he intimates in his recent letter to his friend in this city. His success has been so unequivocal that he anticipates in the course of a few years the blissful pleasure of being able to return to his own native country to enjoy the fruits of his perseverance and industry.

Remedy for the Cut-Worm. J. Wilkinson in the Maryland Farmer, says:—I have a matter of special importance to communicate to all who may have corn to plant after reading this. It may save the loss of a crop for many, and if but one should heed it, and thereby save his crop, I shall feel that I am fully remunerated for my effort to benefit a class who actually need all that they can get, that will in any way promote their interest.

Our Farm Products. The census of 1870, in the portion devoted to agriculture, announces the fact that there are 407,785,041 acres of land included in farms in the United States, the cash value of which is estimated at \$9,262,803,861. The value of the farm products, implements and live stock is stated at \$4,309,693,544, and the annual amount of wages paid to farm hands at \$310,286,295. Of the acreage of the farms nearly 189 millions are arable land, which is cultivated, and on this land the census year there were produced 1887 millions of bushels of grain. The woodland amounts to 159 millions of acres, and the unimproved enclosed land to 591 millions of acres. The grain produced is 288 millions of bushels of wheat, 581 millions of rye, barley and buckwheat; 782 millions of oats, and 761 millions of Indian corn. Besides this grain there were also produced the following: potatoes, beans, and peas, 171 millions of bushels; rice, 741 millions of pounds; butter, 514 millions of pounds; cheese, 531 millions of pounds; honey and maple sugar, 43 millions of pounds; molasses and syrup, 231 millions of gallons; cane sugar, 87,043 hogheads; wine, three millions of gallons; swine, sheep and cattle numbering 681 millions; miltch cows numbering nine millions; milk, 2351 millions of gallons; hay, 271 millions of tons; and the slaughtered animals were valued at 399 millions of dollars, and the orchard and garden products at 65 millions of dollars. These enormous products are much more than necessary for our home consumption, and hence we export vast quantities of food to all parts of the world.

Great as are these returns, the Superintendent of the Census thinks they do not come up to the real total, as with so large an expanse of territory an omission of value in the gross has been unavoidable. They give us an index, however, of the great future in store for our country. Less than one-half of the acreage of enclosed farms is under cultivation, and as the country contains altogether 1945 millions of acres, and but 189 millions (less than ten-per-cent the surface) are under cultivation, on the opportunity for agricultural extension is evident. Three-fourths of the present production of the country is raised on the farms of the Mississippi Valley.

Treatment of Sick Horses.

Boas.—Boas are not necessarily fatal to horses, but often are the cause of internal complications, which, if not checked in time, will result in death. The pressure of an immense number of bots will often impair the digestive organs, bring on dyspepsia, or induce internal inflammation. When the nostrils are distended, the breathing fast and hard, the extremities warm, and the horse bites at his flanks, means should at once be employed to get rid of the bots, which can be done effectually by using the following, as a drueh: Prescription.—One ounce of chloroform, one pint of linseed oil, in a pint of warm water. The chloroform will diffuse itself through the system, and stupefy the bots, causing them to let go their hold on the maw; the oil heals the wounded places, and at the same time acts as a purge, expelling the bots from the system.

WORMS.—To make sure that your colt has worms, give him an ordinary dose of physic, and watch his evacuations; if he has worms, one or more will appear there. After being satisfied that he is troubled with them, adopt the following treatment: Take of tar emetic I drachm; powdered ginger, 1 drachm; linseed meal, enough for a ball; mix with boiling water. Give one ball every morning for a week, then a dose of physic, linseed oil being the best, under the circumstances. Let the stomach rest a week. Give another course of balls and physic, after which let the horse have a drachm of sulphate of iron (powdered) twice a day with his feed.

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