Farm and Garden.

Address all inquiries or communications in relation to agriculture to DR. T. H. HOSKINS, Newport, Vt.

Editorial Notings.

THE HARDNESS OF WOOD. — A writer on the comparative hardness of woods places hickory at 100, getting for pignut hickory 96, white oak 84, white ash 77, apple-tree 70, red oak 69, white beech 65, black walnut 65, black birch 62, yellow and black oak 60, hard maple 56, white elm 56, red cedar 56, cherry 55, yellow pine 54, chestnut 52, yellow poplar 51, butternut and white birch 43, and white pine 35. But it should be remembered that the quality of wood depends very much upon where it grows as well as upon what it is.

ENSILAGE ERRORS. — Those who have failed with ensilage are very few, compared with those who find it profitable; and generally these have failed because they have fed it too exclusively. As the Minnesota Station Bulletin says: "The great danger in feeding corn ensilage in a practical way is in feeding too great a proportion of this and not enough dry, rough fodder and grain. Corn ensilage should never be fed alone. Our own experiments and those reported by other stations indicate that corn produces the most digestible feed if cut in the glazing stage or when the ends of the grains are beginning to harden."

SOME HASTY READERS, and some hasty writers, too, continue to assume, because we so strongly assert the farmer's business rights, as against monopolies of all sorts, that we assent to and even emphasize the idea that "farming don't pay." All who do so must read very hastily. Farming never was a better business in America, "taken by and large," than it is now. But just as merchants and manufacturers insist on fair treatment from transportation companies, so must farmers. If farming were five times as profitable as it is now, we should still cry out for justice in this respect. It is a mighty poor plea for robbing a man that he is making money,—especially if he is making it by farming,—the trade that feeds the world!

"STYLE" ON THE FARM.—A writer in an exchange says: "I doubt if farmers, generally, at this day, with all the modern improvements, average much better than they did when I was younger. To be sure, with horse hoes, cultivators, smoothing harrows, etc., a man can grow much more of any crop than he could then, yet fewer farms were mortgaged then than now. The style of living was simpler and consequently family expenses were not so great." Average much better! Well, we thought the croakers were all claiming that they average much worse. As to "the style of living," we believe that to be a thing which settles itself. If a farmer is clear of debt, he surely has a right to spend his income in what some call "style," but which others consider to be comfort. "This is a free country."

WHAT PRICE WILL PAY?—In an account of the dairy farming of General Mattocks of Portland, Maine, which lately appeared in the *Mirror and Farmer*, it is said: "His cows were pure-bred Jerseys. They were fed three quarts of grain each per day, half corn-meal and half shorts, with an occasional feed of oil meal, about three quarts a week, given a pint at a time. They were allowed all the hay, the best of herd's-grass and clover, that they would eat, and between twelve and fifteen pounds of ensilage daily, fed at noon. He does not believe there is any money in butter, made as carefully as his was, which sells for sixty cents per pound; nor does he think that a profit can be made in first-class hand-made butter selling at fifty cents a pound. He says he lost money on his butter, notwithstanding it was so much thought of."

SNAP CONCLUSIONS. — The *Homestead* says that: "An experiment recently conducted by Henry Roby of Burlington, Vt., conveys a hint which may be of use in the future. In an effort to discover the cause of blight which affects pear and apple-trees, he became convinced that electricity is the primal cause, and secured a large copper wire over some trees beginning to blight. This appears to have acted as a perfect protector, as the trees experimented upon have during the present season remained in perfect condition. The ends of the wires are of course imbedded in the soil to make the electric circuit complete." We fear that Mr. Roby will discover that more than a single trial will be needed to establish the truth of his conclusion. Some people seem to think electricity can do anything; but it is a force as strictly limited and conditioned as all the other forms of energy, light, heat, etc.

THE SILO.—Brother Howe of the *Brattleboro Phœnix* makes the following sensible observations upon the silo: "Distinguished agricultural chemists have doubted the utility of the silo because, they say, nothing of nutritious value is lost by drying, and a great additional weight must be handled by storing and feeding the crop with all its water, the cost of which must be added to the cost of the silo, machinery for cutting, etc. But to this it may be replied that it is impracticable if not impossible to dry a heavy crop of ensilage fodder-corn; and if it could be dried, nothing but the leaves would be eaten by cattle. To preserve it as ensilage is the only way to utilize the whole crop. It is also claimed that in the form of ensilage it is more digestible, that cattle thrive better upon it, and that it is a valuable winter food for milch cows, being a substitute for the green forage of summer and increasing the flow of milk."

FARM WAGES. — There are few brighter farmers in Vermont than W. W. Higbee of Charlotte. Writing in the *Homestead*, he says: "Farm wages are out of all proportion with the price of farm products. The cost of getting work done is the main cause of depression in farming. Think of $1.50 to $2 a day, and corn set down here for forty-eight cents. Potatoes at one time were as high as seventy cents, and are now dropping to eighteen cents; beef has no sale and pork is $4 per hundred weight. Land sells for $15 to $18 per acre, and the best farms bring $35 to $50 per acre, with buildings all in good shape. The meaning of this is, farmers must insist on prices for labor to correspond with prices for produce, or stop doing business. We do not carry it on for fun." This all sounds true enough; but Mr. Higbee offers no solution of the difficulty. Why does he not settle it by refusing to pay high wages? The very moment he puts this question to himself he finds, as we all do, that we are confronted by the fact that, if we hire cheap help, they turn out to be the most costly in the end. In this matter, to use a sailor's expression, "we stand between the devil and the deep sea." We must pay good men high wages, because otherwise they will go elsewhere to get them. In the struggle of the operative class to keep up high wages by strikes and high duties, the effect extends necessarily to all working men. We can not see any help for it, otherwise than a resort to measures for the reduction of the price of all manual labor, which we are resolved not do in America. We shall have to pay high wages in the future as in the past; and the only remedy is to get more work from fewer men by the use of improved machines, and to get higher prices for our products by having them as abundant and good as skill can make them.

"FLUENT WRITERS LYING IN THE SHADE."—Referring to a few remarks in these columns, to the effect that farmers are apt to forget that people in the city have hard times, too, in "making strap and buckle meet," the *Mirror and Farmer* says: "People who go from the cities into the country to spend a few weeks in fishing and lying in the shade of the farmer's trees and eating his strawberries and cream and other delicacies think because the farmer does not have to pay spot cash for them that they cost him nothing. That is the view that far too many of these fluent writers on farm life take of the subject. If all such people could have the benefit of the school of experience and make their visits at other seasons and work in the muck bog and clean out the pigpen and spread the manure and work on their knees in the dirt, setting strawberry plants, and mend fences in the woods among the mosquitoes, to keep the cows out of the corn-field, and know that they were not doing this for a fixed salary where shirking would be so much gained, as it is in their work in the city shops and mills, but feel that their success and the necessaries of life for themselves and families depended on their labors and that they must work whether it was agreeable or not, and that all the money they were to have or handle must come from the sale of their products,—the poetry of farm life would not be so musical to their ears." The "fluent writer," of which our contemporary speaks so fluently in this sentence of 160 words, is a farmer in his sixty-second year, who begins work at daylight even in the longest days, and rarely drives his market wagon into the barn early enough at night to get through with his chores before dark. He has probably set a good many more strawberry plants than his critic; but he hopes he has rather more foresight about his business than to leave his fence-repairing to be done in 'sketer time. It may be added that he has never seen the situation where he thought "shirking would be so much gained"—whether he was at work for himself or another.

Notes by the Way.

WHICH pays better, chickens or eggs? is a frequent inquiry. We do not believe that either alone will pay as well as both combined.

THE analyses, made by the department of agriculture, of butter from the milk of cows fed on cotton seed, show a remarkably high melting point.

NEARLY all elaborately built poultry houses are constructed with a view to lessening labor and affording convenience to the attendant, the result being that they are uncomfortable for the hens and fail to answer the purposes intended.

AUTHORITIES on the subject say that within the past ten years the exports of butter from Denmark have more than doubled, while the quality has steadily improved.

THE plan of winter dairying means more than cows giving milk in winter. It means warm stables, water handy by, and cows kept in the stables and made warm.

WE must grow more of those products which require skill, those which are more highly organized and which minister to the immediate wants and to the cultivated appetites and tastes.

JOHN GOULD says in the *Western Rural* that he sold $114 worth of milk from one acre of ensilage and $52 worth of bran and clover hay. The milk brought $1.40 per 100 pounds.

WHAT is it but the worst kind of management to pay several dollars for good farm tools, and allow them, for want of proper shelter, to become useless a year or so sooner than they should?

IT is proposed by the government of Victoria, Australia, to establish several model dairy farms and to fit them up with the most approved appliances. Pupils will be received at the farms and instructed in scientific dairying.

EMANCIPATION wrought great industrial changes South. It freed the negro instantaneously. Slowly, but none the less certainly, it is freeing the South from the bondage of one industry—and that one agricultural product—cotton.

THE millionaire evidently thinks the days of small things have gone away, because he makes a fortune every year; but the toiling farmer is drawn upon so heavily by monopolies that his accumulation of wealth is proverbially slow, and his pile is sized with a short row of figures.

DID you ever notice that good farmers complain less than anybody else concerning bad seasons? Of course the good farmer desires a propitious season just as earnestly as anybody else; but his failure to get it does not necessarily bring with it a failure of his season's work.

MANY farmers, if they would for one year keep an accurate account of the expense of each crop they were growing, would be surprised to find the profit of one crop was consumed in defraying the expenses of another, although they may make a considerable profit on their entire farms.

"IT has been demonstrated that horses can be fed on ensilage with advantage, and that where they are not required to do service, as in winter, an allowance of thirty pounds of ensilage per day will keep horses in good condition," says the *Mirror and Farmer*. May we ask who "demonstrated" all this?

"IT is all right to advise people to aim high, but when they are chained down, as most farmers are, by conditions which they can not control, if they attempt to jump higher than the chains will reach they are liable to get hurt." Still, it is not well to adopt low aims, for we rarely strike higher than we aim.

"To point out an evil is the first step preparatory to its removal, and persistently calling attention to it the only means of developing a sentiment that will seek a remedy. When the will is aroused, the way by which the end can be reached is pretty sure to open," says an exchange. But it is a hard task to evoke the united will of American farmers, as against corporate contempt of their rights.

THE mania for millions in a minute is subverting our morals and retarding our material growth. The craze and curse of the day is the spirit of speculation which is so rife in the land. This spirit contemns slow accretion. It supplants living day by day with the habit of discounting the future. It substitutes wit for work, speculation for sweat and saving; it lowers moral tone and destroys permanent prosperity.

THERE is usually more waste of valuable stock food in the corn fields than anywhere else, all over the country, and farmers have followed the old slipshod, careless system of harvesting corn so long that many of them are not aware of the value of the fodder. This is particularly true of the West, but is true also of the East on many farms. Properly handled, good corn fodder can be made to take the place of an equal weight of hay.

Larger Farmers Wanted.

I maintain that we want farmers with capacity and desire to cultivate large farms. Our facilities need for development the running of all these varied industries under one head. The remnants of farms and small farms want to be consolidated. We want some farms of 1,000 acres, not grown up to brush, but cultivated, the high hills ornamented with a cottage where the farmer's family can retire for their summer vacation, and overlook the day's doings on the farm and surrounding country. I am writing on the porch of a house built a hundred years ago, shaded by maples as old. My father and great-grandfather tilled the acres in front of me when one barn held the crops, and an ox cart, one plow, a hoe, scythe and grain cradle and flail were all the tools required. A hundred acres were then enough. Now with all the tools mentioned, 400 acres are none too many, and facilities for improvements were never so apparent as to-day.—*Correspondence Homestead.*

Advertisements.

Be Sure

If you have made up your mind to buy Hood's Sarsaparilla do not be induced to take any other. Hood's Sarsaparilla is a peculiar medicine, possessing, by virtue of its peculiar combination, proportion, and preparation, curative power superior to any other article. A Boston lady who knew what she wanted, and whose example is worthy imitation, tells her experience below:

To Get

"In one store where I went to buy Hood's Sarsaparilla the clerk tried to induce me buy their own instead of Hood's; he told me their's would last longer; that I might take it on ten days' trial; that if I did not like it I need not pay anything, etc. But he could not prevail on me to change. I told him I knew what Hood's Sarsaparilla was. I had taken it, was satisfied with it, and did not want any other.

Hood's

When I began taking Hood's Sarsaparilla I was feeling real miserable, suffering a great deal with dyspepsia, and so weak that at times I could hardly stand. I looked, and had for some time, like a person in consumption. Hood's Sarsaparilla did me so much good that I wonder at myself sometimes, and my friends frequently speak of it." MRS. ELLA A. GOFF, 61 Terrace Street, Boston.

Sarsaparilla

Sold by all druggists. $1; six for $5. Prepared only by C. I. HOOD & CO., Apothecaries, Lowell, Mass.

100 Doses One Dollar

A Choice Farm for Sale.

Situated in Cabot, Vt., one mile from Cabot Village, on the Walden road, known as the Milton Fisher place, and is considered

One of the Best Farms in Town.

Said to contain 185 acres more or less; has two good houses near together; has two good barns, large barn forty by sixty, with good stone basement; horse barn has also basement, and both barns have a good stream of water running to each basement. The other buildings consist of a good carriage house, work shop and hog house; arch and kettle in hog house to cook swill.

Can Tap 2,000 Maples,

But have not practiced tapping over ten or twelve hundred. The most of the sap tubs are cedar painted inside and out; and with good sap-holders and other fixtures is considered an extra nice sugar orchard, and for convenience is hard to beat.

The Most of the Tillage is Meadow,

With some upland, and will cut fifty tons of hay, and I think it safe to say that any kind of timber that grows in this section can be found on this farm, with an abundance of cedar.

The Stock and Crops

Will be sold with the place if parties desire it. Would take a good house with a small piece of land in or near some village that contains a graded school or academy. Two nice trout brooks run through the farm, and as they have been protected they are beginning to be a source of revenue as well as convenience and pleasure. For the last three years I have been hauling manure from the village, and still further there has been an extra large stock of cattle and hogs kept on the place, and the farm will show for itself how it responds to the treatment it has had. The best of spring water runs in the yards and buildings. For further information inquire of J. & J. H. Hickie on the place.

J. W. HICKIE.

Cabot, Vt., August 25, 1889.

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Advertisements.

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IS a blood disease. Until the poison is expelled from the system, there can be no cure for this loathsome and dangerous malady. Therefore, the only effective treatment is a thorough course of **Ayer's Sarsaparilla**—the best of all blood purifiers. The sooner you begin the better; delay is dangerous.

"I was troubled with catarrh for over two years. I tried various remedies, and was treated by a number of physicians, but received no benefit until I began to take Ayer's Sarsaparilla. A few bottles of this medicine cured me of this troublesome complaint and completely restored my health."—Jesse M. Boggs, Holman's Mills, N. C.

"When Ayer's Sarsaparilla was recommended to me for catarrh, I was inclined to doubt its efficacy. Having tried so many remedies, with little benefit, I had no faith that anything would cure me. I became emaciated from loss of appetite and impaired digestion. I had nearly lost the sense of smell, and my system was badly deranged. I was about discouraged, when a friend urged me to try Ayer's Sarsaparilla, and referred me to persons whom it had cured of catarrh. After taking half a dozen bottles of this medicine, I am convinced that the only sure way of treating this obstinate disease is through the blood."—Charles H. Maloney, 113 River st., Lowell, Mass.

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PREPARED BY

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Composed of imported ginger, choice aromatics, and the best of medicinal French Brandy, SANFORD'S GINGER is vastly superior to all other gingers, and care should be exercised in purchasing, lest some cheap, worthless, and often dangerous ginger be substituted. Ask for

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CURES RHEUMATISM.

BRADFORD, VT., Feb. 19, 1889.

One bottle of *Anti-Apoplectine* cured me of Rheumatism in the muscles of the back.

H. L. FARR.

CURES HEART DISEASE.

SWANTON, VT., Feb. 25, 1889.

My wife had what the doctor called Neuralgia of the Heart. *Anti-Apoplectine* has cured her. A. H. QUAIN.

CURES PARALYSIS.

EASTPORT, ME., Dec. 20, 1888.

I have taken two bottles of *Anti-Apoplectine* for Paralysis of the left leg, and it helped me.

ALEXANDER D. JONES.

CURES LIVER & KIDNEY TROUBLES.

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I obtained great benefit from *Anti-Apoplectine*, for Kidney and Liver troubles.

Yours truly, REV. GEORGE H. MOORE.

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Anti-Apoplectine was used by a member of our family as a remedy for Chronic Dyspepsia and Indigestion with very excellent results.

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ELIZABETH COLLEY, A. M.

Soldiers' Budget.

Pensions Granted.

To William Cassady, South Peacham, $8 a month and $165 arrears; Simeon H. Dumas, West Randolph, $6 a month and $200 arrears; Christopher C. Fisher, Wolcott, $12 a month and $354 arrears; William D. Smith, Montpelier, increase from $2 to $6 a month; Henry P. Sawyer, Claremont, N. H., increase from $6 to $20 a month and $600 arrears; Horace Yarrington, Strafford, increase; Julius Perrin, Berlin, increase; Warren Gibbs, St. Albans, original; Harvey W. Waite, Stowe, increase; A. P. Osborne, Tunbridge, and Ira Quimby, West Concord, increase; William B. Marston, Chelsea, increase.

Questions Answered.

T. T. F., WATERBURY.—The decision of the secretary of the interior that a dishonorable discharge from the service does not bar a soldier from receiving a pension is only restoring the old practice that existed prior to the days of the Cleveland administration.

L. T., BURLINGTON.—The delay in increase pension claims is largely due to the inability of the commissioner of pensions to handle the business of his office. In one week recently over fourteen hundred applications for increase of pension were received at the pension office, and during the same week only about fifty increase pensions were granted. The number of claims pending in the pension office of all classes is said to be about 400,000.

J. H. P., HANOVER, N. H.—After an appeal has been taken in a rejected pension claim it is unusual to file additional testimony before a decision is rendered. The secretary of the interior will not consider testimony in a pension case until it has been first considered by the commissioner of pensions. If the rejection is affirmed by the secretary, you can then file additional testimony and the case will be considered in connection with the new testimony, and if the claim is again rejected you can again appeal to the secretary of the interior.

A. C., RICHMOND.—The salary of the commissioner of pensions is $5,000. The salary of the assistant secretary of the interior, who considers the appeals taken from the decisions of the commissioner, is $3,000 a year. It looks like "appealing down hill," to be sure. The cases appealed from the pension office were regarded of sufficient importance to be considered by the secretary of the interior himself prior to 1885, when the cases were first turned over to an assistant, and the Harrison administration has not yet reformed this practice.

R. J. C., BENNINGTON.—The Soldiers' Home would not be entitled, under existing laws, to the accrued pension of a pensioner who died while an inmate of the Home leaving by will $200 or $300 for the benefit of the Home. If a pensioner dies leaving no widow or children under sixteen years of age, the pension due him at the time of his death cannot be drawn, except where the pensioner did not leave sufficient means to pay the expenses of his last sickness and burial, and then only sufficient to defray such expenses. Congress passed an act March 2, 1889, that gives the secretary of the interior power to pay arrears of accrued pensions in certain cases, which is not the case stated by you.

G. H., MORETOWN.—The order of the commissioner of pensions, that the testimony of the claimant himself and one enlisted man should be sufficient to show origin of disability in the service, was probably intended only for the newspapers. The commissioner is not the head of the department and is not the official to make the rules governing the adjudicating of pensions. Tanner is reported as saying that when he learned it was not a statute law requiring the testimony of two enlisted men to establish the origin of disability in the service, he issued his order that the testimony of one comrade should be sufficient. If Tanner had followed the practice in such cases, he would have recommended to the secretary of the interior that such an order be made, and the secretary, who has the authority by law to make such rules, would have issued the order undoubtedly. Such assumption of power on the part of the commissioner of pensions is, of course, disgusting and open to criticism. We might add that his said order is not respected in the pension office. The calls for testimony since the order are the same as before it—two enlisted men being still required.

Custer's Dead Battle Charger.

Dandy, the famous charger of General Custer, has just died. Twenty years ago the great cavalryman first rode his favorite bay and from that time on the two were together in peace and in war until Dandy shed blood on the shore of the Little Big Horn River, where Custer perished in his immortal charge into the camp of Sitting Bull. All through the Wichita and Yellowstone campaigns, in storm and sunshine, by night and by day, horse and rider scoured the wilderness. They were meant by nature to be fast friends—brave, proud and true. Many a wild night of carnage has Dandy borne the illustrious Indian fighter into battle and out again. He has stepped proudly at the head of victorious processions and chased deer among the Black Hills, where Custer was seeking for gold and fame. And now it is all over. For years the worn-out charger has lived on a farm in Michigan. A few nights ago the relatives of the dead hero stood around the deathbed of his dying dumb companion. When morning came they dug a grave under the apple-trees, and there Dandy will moulder into dust. Had he been a man his services would have made him glorious, and though but a horse he will not be forgotten.—*New York Herald.*

BUCKLIN'S ARNICA SALVE.—The best salve in the world for cuts, bruises, sores, ulcers, salt rheum, fever sores, tetter, chapped hands, chilblains, corns and all skin eruptions, and positively cures piles, or no pay required. It is guaranteed to give perfect satisfaction, or money refunded. Price twenty-five cents per box. Sold by all druggists.