FARM NOTES.

OATMEAL FOR HORSES.—One of the best things in the world to give a horse, after he has been driven, is a quart of oatmeal stirred in a pail of water. It refreshes and strengthens him, relieves his immediate thirst, and prepares his stomach for more solid food. So says Joseph Harris, after twenty years' trial of it.

MR. HYDE remarks in the New York *Times*, that if one wishes to cultivate his farm like a market garden, it may pay to plow in the coarse manure and harrow in the fine, but as a rule he would recommend the application of the manure to the surface of the soil. This is nature's method, and is the most successful for common practice.

CROWDING FOWLS.—Poultry require plenty of house room, for crowding them on their roosts, or having illy built, dilapidated or damp houses is conducive to disease. If, on account of breeding more than one variety, because you have limited ground, or because you have fruits and vegetables you wish to keep the birds from, you have to keep the fowls in restricted quarters, by all means give them all the exercise room you possibly can, and there is far more danger of giving them too little than too much.

MR. J. S. WOODWARD discourses in a late New York *Tribune* upon the care of stock during winter. He thinks that any man who lets his cattle stand shivering in the lee of a straw-stack, or old fence, or under an open shed, should be tied in the same place and be compelled to stay one night with the thermometer at zero and the snow flying thick and fast about him; if this does not convince him of the necessity of good warm stables, he is not fit to be called by the noble name of farmer, and the quicker he gets out of the business the better for it and himself.

THE DIFFERENCE.—From actual experiments made, it is demonstrated beyond a doubt, that the grinding of grain adds one-third to its value for feeding purposes. This is a matter of a good deal of importance to the agricultural community, and in fact to all classes who have animals to feed. As far as dollars are concerned, perhaps it is not of so much moment in the Northwest, where grain is so cheap and so plenty, as it is in other portions of the country, where less grain is raised, but it is worthy of the consideration of those who have not full bins of oats and corn. Since the introduction of cheap feed-mills, it is the province of every farmer to own one, with which all grain intended for the stock on the farm could be ground.

MEASURING CORN.—A number of rules for measuring corn have been published. As a multiplicity of rules tend to confuse, the question arises, why can we not have one good rule? The reason is obvious. New corn will not measure as many bushels to the foot or inches as old corn, on account of shrinkage. A crib of corn measured in the fall will not yield as many bushels to the cubic foot as when measured in the spring or summer. Corn in wagon, when first put in, will not measure as much to the foot as when hauled several miles. Hence the necessity of working by different rules under different circumstances. All rules are based upon the number of cubic inches in a bushel of shelled corn, which is 2150.4. If all corn shelled out the same, under all circumstances, it would be very easy to have one rule. As near right as any rule I have tried is twelve cubic feet to the barrel for corn in crib in the fall of the year, eleven and a half feet in spring time, and about eleven feet in summer; twelve feet as thrown in wagon in the field and eleven and a quarter hauled four or five miles.

SMALL FARMS.—The French people have more ready cash in individual possession than any other nation in the world. It is not the wealth of a nation that makes the people rich, but the general diffusion of wealth. This is the case in France. The French are a nation of small farmers. There are more land-owners in that country than in America. The farms are small; the majority are under twenty acres, and a very large number under ten. It may not be that is the only reason for the money wealth of these people; they are notably economical and thrifty. But the small farms have something to do with it. The farmers in some of the eastern counties of Pennsylvania, where the farms are comparatively small, could well compete with the French in their possession of money wealth. Almost every farmer has his hoard invested. These men have a habit of feeding a few head of beef cattle or a flock of sheep every winter. They sell little grain but wheat, and feed their fodder and coarse grain to purchased stock. They make more profit to the head of stock than is made upon large grazing farms, and their land is rich and high-priced, because of the large quantity of manure that is made in feeding stock. The consumption of meat is continually increasing, and with the extension of manufactures there are more mouths to fill every year, so that it is not probable the supply can ever become excessive.

SOME ITEMS IN FARM ECONOMY.—The arrangements of the buildings and the division of the farm into fields depends so much upon the character of the farm, the kind of farming, individual taste, etc., that it is out of the question to have a fixed plan that is the best one for all farms of any given size. There are certain general principles which should serve as a foundation for the arrangement, but the details must necessarily vary greatly. For example, if possible the barns should be upon a rise of ground where a cellar can be built opening to the lower ground at the rear. The fields should be so arranged that there should be as little fencing as possible, and so located that all fields can be easily reached from the lane. A long field has considerable advantage over one of the same area that is square—in the longer "bouts," and therefore less time spent in turning, plowing, harrowing, sowing, harvesting, etc. A pasture close to the stable is always handy, and other things being equal, the orchard should not be put at the rear of the farm, where the wood lot had best be located. There is much labor to be saved in having everything so placed—and this applies to the various details that seem trivial at first sight—that there will be no extra steps or turns in doing the every-day work of the farm. For example, many day's work can be saved by having the pump in a handy corner of the barn-yard, where the stock from a number of yards may come to the troughs. If the matters of the farm are not already economically arranged, it would be well to make such changes of fences, buildings, etc., as to finally secure the desired end. By degrees the thoughtful farmer will improve his farm until it approximates to a model and therefore an economical farm.

HOUSEKEEPERS' HELPS.

EVERY closet and room in a house should be thoroughly inspected once a week.

NEWLY ground flour which has never been packed is very superior to barrel flour.

IN roasting meat do not salt before putting in the oven as salt extracts the juice.

IN warm weather put your eggs in cold water some time before you are ready to use them.

LEMONS may be kept fresh a long time in a jar of water; changing the water every morning.

A TRUE test for eggs is to drop them in water, and if the large end comes up they are not fresh.

HAMS wrapped in thick brown paper and packed in a barrel of wood ashes in the cellar will keep all summer.

To test nutmegs prick them with a pin, and if they are good the oil will instantly spread around the punctures.

BAR soap when first bought should be cut in square pieces and put in a dry place. It lasts better after shrinking.

ALL fish skin should be washed, dried thoroughly, cut in small bits and put in a box or paper bag, to use in settling coffee.

NEW ORLEANS or other good brown sugar is best for raised fruits and wedding cakes. It should be coarse-grained and clean.

ALWAYS prepare Sunday's dinner on Saturday if possible, that domestics may enjoy the Sabbath day privileges as well as you.

THE small white sago called pearl is the best. The large brown kind has an earthy taste. It should always be kept in a covered jar or box.

SALT cod should be kept in a dry place where the odor of it will not penetrate to other parts of the house. The best kind is that which is called dun, from its peculiar color.

MOLASSES CUP CAKE.—Two cups molasses, two cups butter, one cup milk, a teaspoonful soda, the same of lemon, half a nutmeg and two eggs; beat well and bake in quick oven.

ELEPHANT ON TOAST.—Take cold meat and put on the fire in a stewpan with a little water. When tender, take it up and mince very fine; then put it back and flavor with pepper and salt. Make some toast, butter each slice, and spread the mince over each piece; then pour the gravy over it. Serve hot.

OILCLOTH.—Mrs. Henry Ward Beecher, in giving some of the results of her housekeeping experience, remarks that neither soap, hot water nor brush should ever be used on oilcloth. It should always be washed in lukewarm water with a piece of soft old flannel and wiped perfectly dry each time. And the appearance of the cloth, Mrs. Beecher declares, is greatly improved by using half milk and half water, skimmilk, if not sour, being just as good as new milk.

COOKING BEETS.—One of the most satisfactory ways to cook beets is to bake them. When boiled, even if their jackets are left on, a great deal of the best part of the beets is dissolved, and so lost. It will, of course, take a little longer to bake than to boil them; but this is no objection. Allow from fifteen to twenty minutes more for baking; slice them, and heat as you would if they were boiled. After they are cooked, season with pepper, salt, butter, and a squeeze of lemon.

[Milwaukee Sentinel.]

That wonderful remedy for rheumatism, St. Jacobs Oil, has been used by a large number of people in this city, and with effect truly marvelous. Frequent reports are made where sufferers have been afforded relief, and the sale is growing largely. The fact that it is an external remedy, commends it to many who would not otherwise think of going out of the beaten track to find a remedy.

SUE had sued for breach of promise, and the verdict of the jury was against her. "Want to poll the jury?" said the judge, formally. "Yes, I do. Jes' gimme the poll for two minutes;" and she had thrown off her sun-bonnet and expectorated on the palms of her hands before the legal phrase could be explained by her counsel.

[Indianapolis Daily Sentinel.]

No More Gossip.

If we are correctly informed, St Jacobs Oil is now the usual tea-party topic in place of the former staple—free gossip. How wise and how much more beneficial.

A COLORED railroad passenger in Ohio refused, for a long time, to give up his ticket to the conductor, protesting that he had paid his fare "at that other place down thar," and that the ticket was his receipt for the money.

Father is Getting Well.

My daughters say, "How much better father is since he used Hop Bitters." He is getting well after his long suffering from a disease declared incurable, and we are so glad that he used your Bitters.—A lady of Rochester, N. Y.—Utica Herald.

A PAINTER who was well acquainted with the dire effects of the law had to represent two men—one who had gained a lawsuit and another who had lost one. He painted the former with a shirt on and the latter naked.

The Cause of Science

has received an important addition in the elegant Observatory which Mr. H. H. Warner, proprietor of the valuable Safe Kidney and Liver Cure, has erected at Rochester.

Two Cincinnati servant girls, named Stegemann, have fallen heir to $80,000, and the dollar stores have rained circulars upon them till their lives have become a burden. With riches come cares.

BITS OF INFORMATION.

THE first census of the United States was taken in 1790. The population was 3,929,328.

MEZZO-TINTO engraving was invented by the celebrated soldier and Admiral, Prince Rupert, in 1650.

CHAUCER was a courtier and diplomatist as well as a poet. He was sent to France and Italy in the capacity of his King's representative.

THE Egyptian obelisk, now in New York city, was originally set up in Heliopolis. Herodotus speaks of two obelisks (one of which is the New York one) at Alexandria, and Rawlinson fixes the date of their removal from Heliopolis at 1463 B. C. According to that, their age is 3,043 years. The companion obelisk is in London, England.

WHAT is known as cut glass is glass with incisions and ornaments with smooth surfaces, appearing as if cut by a sharp instrument. The cutting of the glass consists entirely in grinding away successive portions by holding them upon the surface of wheels of stone, metal, and wood, which are made to revolve rapidly. The first or rough cutting is sometimes given by wheels of stone, resembling grindstones. Afterward wheels of iron are used, having their edges covered with sharp sand or with emery. To prevent heat by friction small streams of water are applied. The last polish is given by brush.

THE size of some of the largest churches in Europe is shown by their seating capacities, as follows: St. Peter's Church at Rome will hold 54,000 persons; Milan Cathedral, 7,000; St. Paul's, at Rome, 32,000; St. Paul's, at London, 35,000; St. Petronio, at Bologna, 24,000; Florence Cathedral, 24,300; Antwerp Cathedral, 24,000; St. Sophia's, Constantinople, 23,000; St. John Lateran, 22,900; Notre Dame, at Paris, 20,000; Pisa Cathedral, 13,000; St. Stephen's, at Vienna, 12,400; St. Dominic's, at Bologna, 12,000; St. Peter's, at Bologna, 11,500; Cathedral of Vienna, 11,000; St. Mark's, Venice, 7,000; Spurgeon's Tabernacle, 7,000. Very few American churches have a seating capacity of over 1,500.

IN case of a gentleman wishing to marry, literally in the market with his heart, he wears a plain or chased gold ring upon the forefinger of the left (or heart) hand. When success attends his suit and he is actually engaged, the ring passes to the third finger. If, however, the gentleman desires to tell the fair ones that he not only is not "in the market," but he does not design to marry at all, he wears the signet upon his little finger, and all ladies may understand that he is out of their reach. With the fair sex the "laws of the ring" are: A plain or chased ring on little finger of the right hand indicates "not engaged," or, in plain words, "ready for proposals, sealed or otherwise." When engaged the ring passes to the first finger of the left hand. When married the third finger receives it. If the fair one proposes to defy all siege to her heart she places rings on her first and fourth fingers—one on each—like two charms, to keep away the tempter. It is somewhat singular that this disposition of rings is rare.

Answer This.

Did you ever know any person to be ill without inaction of the Stomach, Liver or kidneys, or did you ever know one who was well when either was obstructed or inactive; and did you ever know or hear of any case of the kind that Hop Bitters would not cure. Ask your neighbor this same question.—Times.

Book Stealing.

Aristotle, observes the *Saturday Review*, drew a distinction between the man who steals books to sell them again for mere pecuniary profit (which he would call "chrematistic," or "unnatural," book stealing) and the man who steals them because he feels that he is their natural and proper possessor. The same distinction is taken by Jules Janin, who was a more constant student of Horace than of Aristotle. In his imaginary dialogue of bibliophiles Janin introduces a character who announces the death of M. Libri. The tolerant person who brings the sad news proposes "to cast a few flowers on the melancholy tomb. He was bibliophile, after all. What do you think of it? Many a good fellow has stolen books and died in grace after all." "Yes," replied the President of the club, "but the good fellows did not settle for the books they stole."

SOME persons are so thriftless they would convert a garden into a desert, while others possess the energy to make the desert blossom like the rose. Dr. Tabler ranks with the latter class of public benefactors, because he prepares out of the common Buckeye a superior ointment to cure Piles. Price 50c. For sale by all druggists.

A GIRL only eight years old was arrested in Lowell, Mass., the other day, for drunkenness, and an exchange says: "To complete the disgraceful picture, the police let her lie ten hours insensible in a cell without attention." But they did not club her.

MANY people afflicted with phthisis pulmonalis (Consumption) use Dr. Bull's Cough Syrup with very great benefit and relief. Price 25 cts. a bottle.

VEGETINE.—No medicine has attained such a great reputation as this justly celebrated compound.

VEGETINE is a great panacea for our aged fathers and mothers, for it gives them strength, quiets their nerves, and gives them Nature's sweet sleep.

A Big Find.

Ezelot, a French soldier, was walking through the Paris railway station with two comrades, when they noticed on the floor a packet wrapped in a newspaper. They kicked it along before them for some distance, and when Ezelot was getting into the train, going home on short leave, one of his comrades, picking up the packet, thrust it into the canvas forage bag slung at his side, Ezelot going on his way without having perceived the little pleasantry.

Arrived at Neuilly, where his parents lived, his mother, emptying the forage bag, discovered the bundle, and, thinking it was a packet of newspapers, put it on a table in the kitchen. There it remained for four or five days, till a married sister, calling in and seeing the packet, was moved by unwonted curiosity. Opening it she discovered documents representing the £26,000, the loss of which M. Pages a rich man of Paris, had advertised throughout Europe. The European papers are not, however, read at Neuilly. The soldier and his parents, not knowing what else to do, followed the provincial Frenchman's instinct and had recourse to the maire. That functionary, communicating with Paris, speedily brought down M. Pages, who, gratefully paying the promised reward of £1,000, went off with his oddly recovered treasure.

Thread from Wood.

The manufacture of thread from wood for crochet and sewing purposes has, it is said, been started in Sweden. The manufacture has arrived at such a state of perfection that it can produce, at a much lower price, thread of as fine quality as Clark's, and has from this circumstance been called thread "a la Clark." It is wound in balls by machinery, either by hand or steam, which, with the labeling, takes one minute twelve seconds, and the balls are packed up in cardboard boxes, generally ten in a box. Plenty of orders from all parts of Sweden have come in, but as the works are not yet in proper order there has hardly been time to complete them all. The production gives fair promise of success, and it is expected to be very important for home consumption.—*Scientific American.*

Mexican Balls.

The Mexicans are notoriously fond of dancing, and will neglect almost anything else to attend a *baile* or ball. Many American dances have been introduced, but the amusement, instead of being indulged in in a wild and unrestrained manner, is conducted with great decorum. The ladies all sit on one side of the ball-room and the gentlemen on the other, and when the music begins the young men walk out into the middle of the floor and beckon with their fingers to the young ladies whom they desire for partners. At the close of the dance the ladies return to their side of the room and the gentlemen to their own. The waltz of modern society and other fashionable dances in the East would be considered immodest in a Santa Fe *baile*, and would not be tolerated.

An Episcopalian Horse.

The Rev. Dr. Broadus, an old Baptist parson famous in Virginia, once visited a plantation where the darky who met him at the gate asked him which barn he would have his horse put in.

"Have you two barns?" asked the doctor.

"Yes, sah," replied the darky; "dar's de ole barn, and Mas'r Wales has jes build a new one."

"Where do you usually put the horses of clergymen who come to see your master?"

"Well, sah, if dey's Methodis's or Baptis's, we gen'ally put 'em in de ole barn, but if dey's 'Piscopals we puts 'em in de new one."

"Well, Bob, you can put my horse in the new barn; I'm a Baptist, but my horse is an Episcopalian."