

FARM, ORCHARD AND GARDEN

By J. S. Trigg—Copyright, 1900.

July plowing of the stubble fields will do them almost as much good as a summer fallow.

The successful rotary steam engine and perpetual motion are two illusions which mankind will never quit chasing after.

France, which very carefully protects all her insectivorous birds, has placed a ban on the sparrow and fosters its destruction.

The most popular red rose for greenhouse culture is the Meteor. It is a free bloomer with us and gives splendid satisfaction for summer culture in the garden.

A miserable old banana trust doles us out a dozen bananas for a quarter when if the trust did not have a hand in the matter we would get them at a cent apiece.

Michigan is taking more kindly to the growing of sugar beets than any other state east of the Mississippi river. A state bounty has given the business a fine start in that state.

The failure of any staple crop in a country always tends toward diversifying the products of the farms in such country. Thus crop failures are sometimes blessings in disguise.

Every farmer, regardless of the moral phase of the question, can afford to rest and let his animals rest one day in seven. From a purely physical and economical standpoint it pays to do this.

The sheep gets in its very best work on the farm when turned out into the stubble fields after the grain is harvested. It will not only get a fine living, but will clean up the weeds in great shape.

The interest in the goat industry is steadily growing. The value of this beast as a clearer up of brush lands is only just beginning to be understood. Men with brush farms should look this goat business up. A small flock of them will work wonders on a brush farm.

A parson always runs a great moral risk when he gets hold of a pair of bronchos to break in or a horse which can trot inside of three minutes. There are some things which piety has no onusness to encounter. When a parson gets horsy, he might just as well quit preaching.

Sweet clover, which is spreading all over the west, is one of the least objectionable of our weed pests. It confines its work almost wholly to roadsides and the railway rights of way, is very fragrant when in bloom, affords the bees plenty of choice food and, like the other clovers, is a soil fertilizer.

Trees are sometimes cranky, just as men are. A friend of ours has a large soft maple tree in his yard which invariably sheds its foliage in July and then, after a brief rest, puts out another crop of leaves. It would be interesting to know just why this tree, enjoying normal conditions, does this thing.

Every two minutes from daylight till dark one or other of a pair of wrens has each day while their young were in the nest been carrying to the little birds a caterpillar or grub. As this food was all collected from the adjacent orchard and garden, it is easy to see the economic value of such a pair of birds.

A woman who was of a statistical turn of mind kept count for one month and found that she cooked for a family of eight 269 eggs, 692 potatoes, made 200 biscuits, 15 puddings, 6 cakes, washed 1,218 knives and forks, 1,250 spoons and 3,182 dishes. She was not a new woman, but just one of the old fashioned sort.

In a large field of sugar beets being grown in the vicinity of a western town we lately saw 20 or more boys and girls busy at work thinning and weeding the crop. One very admirable thing about this new crop is that it will furnish employment to a large contingent of labor of this class—a class for which it is not easy to secure employment. All boys and girls of this age—from 10 to 14—would be better off every way to be partially employed during the summer vacation, and beet culture gives the opportunity.

It is all poppycock to ask or expect the average farmer to keep his front door yard nicely trimmed with a lawn mower, as may and should be done by a city resident. There is too much to

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do and look after to take care of a farmhouse door yard in this manner. The best way to care for the front yard in the country is to make it large, not have too many trees in it and then run the farm mowing machine over it every two or three weeks. By so doing the grass can be kept in very good shape and the yard made attractive.

During dry seasons there is much temptation to plow up and try to cultivate spots of land which are quag holes in a wet season. While it is all right to subside these spots and the right thing to do is to drain them, if they cannot be so tile drained they should be got into grass as soon as possible and be so kept.

The Argentine government has sent 50 of its bright young men to take a course of study in the agricultural schools of this country. In no country is better work being done along the lines of an improved agriculture, and nowhere are there better schools for the technical training in this profession than in America.

The Oregon bred cayuse, which, at \$2.50 per head, went to the canneries on the coast and from there to France as choice canned corned beef, is now being shipped to the central states and sold to good people who jeopardize their lives and their eternal happiness by trying to break them in to do the work of decent horses.

The federal courts have recently held that a farmer cannot be forced into bankruptcy by his creditors, as may a merchant or men in other professions. The courts seem to wisely recognize the fact that a farmer's ability to meet his obligations is more subject to climatic conditions than is the case with other lines of business.

Observation leads us to the opinion that when three inches of rainfall occurs within one hour and a half, as sometimes happens, not more than half of it will find its way into the ground, the surplus running off into the natural drainage channels of the locality. This explains why the effects of a heavy summer rain are often transient.

We have taken a three-year-old strawberry bed and lately treated it as follows: We mowed it off, then covered it with three inches of rotten manure and raked it off smooth. We expect that enough good, strong strawberry plants will force their way through this covering to set the bed for a crop next year, while the grass and weeds will be smothered.

A very large and successful business has been built up in evaporated eggs. It takes four dozen eggs to make one pound of the evaporated product and for all purposes save cooking to eat as eggs are usually served they are in this form just as good as the fresh product. It would seem as though in this channel eggs of questionable age and repute might find a sphere of usefulness. The product goes mostly to the mining countries of the far north, where fresh eggs are of necessity an unknown commodity.

MANUFACTURING PLANTS.

A farmer friend wants us to tell why it is that manufacturing interests so largely center in the east and why it is so difficult to secure any sort of manufacturing plants for our smaller western towns. There are several reasons which conspire to bring about this condition, one, and not the least, that the money necessary to carry on such enterprises is more easily obtainable in the east than in the west and always at a lower rate of interest; another that transportation facilities are better in the east than in the west; another that in the matter of always being able to secure skilled mechanical help for repairs to machinery and men skilled in operating machinery the east always has the advantage of the west. In time the west will manufacture far more things than it now does. The reduction of freight rates enables the manufacturer to consider less the question of being near his supply of raw material and, more, that of being located near what may be termed manufacturing centers. Creameries, cheese factories, tow mills, canneries, agricultural implement factories, those which use wood as raw material, such as wagon, buggy, butter tub, pump, sash and door factories, locate naturally in the west, while the workers in steel and iron, art work of all kinds, leather, textile fabrics, rubber and the rarer metals almost invariably locate in the east. It would seem as if it would be greatly to the advantage of the workers in these factories could they live in less crowded places, and it would be greatly to the advantage of the western farmer and producer could he have this valuable class of consumers close to his doors.

WHAT HURTS A PASTURE.

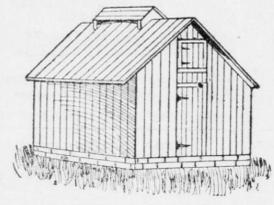
Many a good pasture receives a permanent injury by overstocking. Some men seem to think that it is all right to feed a pasture off clear down to the roots of the grass. This is always a mistake. This gives the weeds a chance to grow, and when they start the grass has no show. Close feeding also gives the grass no chance to grow, and we repeat what we have said heretofore in these notes—that if you want grass to grow above ground you must give the roots a chance to grow under ground, and this they will not do unless the grass is given a chance above ground. A pasture should be so used that there is always an abundance of grass in it, and there is no better way to use it than to divide it and let the flocks have the run of one-half of it at a time. Many an old pasture can be greatly improved by simply plowing and reseeding or by giving it a thorough disking in the early spring and a good sprinkling of medium clover seed.

FARM AND GARDEN

ICE STORAGE.

A Makeshift Structure and a Simple, Inexpensive House.

"Do you say you are not able to build an icehouse?" You have plenty of rails. Just take them and build a double pen and fill in between with old straw, chaff, forest leaves or anything of like nature. Tramp it in solid; then take the old boards, fasten them on the inside of inner pen, vertically, no matter if they don't join up closely. Now put eight or ten inches of your packing material in the bottom, build

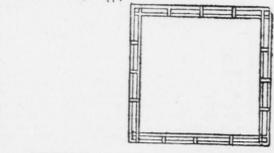
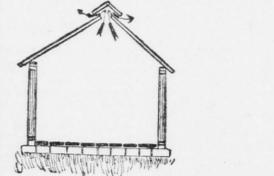


PERSPECTIVE OF ICEHOUSE.

your ice in a solid block on top of this, filling all crevices with pounded ice. If it be freezing weather, throw some water over each layer, and it will freeze and be united in a solid mass. Build your ice eight or ten inches from the sides of the pen, and as you build it up tramp in your packing material, whatever it may be. Build your ice as high as the pen. Now over all put plenty of sawdust, chaff or anything that will exclude the air, which is one of the principal factors in keeping ice. Now put up a few rafters made of poles, spike them to the top rail of the outer pen, allowing them to extend over a considerable distance. This will, after the roof is on, shade the walls somewhat and prevent the rain from reaching the ice. The roofing material may be of rough boards well nailed.

Now, according to an Ohio Farmer writer, you will be surprised if you do all this at the length of time you can keep ice, but if you wish a better house this can be built as follows:

The first cut represents a more expensive house, with a vertical section and plan of foundation in the second cut. This is not a very expensive house and in the times of joist frames can be kept up with a very little cash outlay. The size of building is 14 feet over all. First lay a foundation of cobble or broken stone, and on this lay sills made of 2 by 8 joist spaced apart by spiking in four inch blocks at the place where studding is to be set, which are 2 by 8, using three on each side between the corner posts, which are formed of one 2 by 8 and two 2 by 6 scantlings. This gives a good chance to fasten the lining at the corners. The height of building being eight feet, use 2 by 8 short pieces cut between each studding for nail ties to fasten the siding. Line up inside horizontally, filling the space between the sawdust and you line up. Making the siding vertical and the lining horizontal is sufficient bracing for a building of this size. The plate is of a single 2 by 8, spiked well on top of studding. The rafters



VERTICAL SECTION—GROUND PLAN. are 2 by 4, with short collar beam to every third set of rafters. The roof may be of any material suitable for the purpose. The drawing shows a board roof. The ventilator is easily understood from the cuts. Two doors are used. The lower one is used to store away the ice and the upper one to throw in sawdust, which can be easily done from a wagon, as the height is only eight feet.

Wasting His Time.



Traveler—Can you direct me to Hollow Meadows? Hodge (who stutters frightfully)—Ye-ye-ye-ye. You t-t-t-t-take the f-f-f-first t-t-t-t-turning on th-the right and ku-ku-ku-keep straight on over th-the b-bridge, bu-bub-bub-but you'd bu-bub-bub-better be go-go-go-go-in on you'll gu-gu-get there quicker th-th-th-th-th than I can t-t-t-t-tell you.—Punch.

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Notice to Creditors.

In the superior court of the state of Washington, in and for the county of Whitman. In the matter of the estate of Nancy Beasley, deceased.

Notice is hereby given by the undersigned, administrator of the estate of Nancy Beasley, deceased, to the creditors of and all persons having claims against said deceased, or said estate, to present their claims with the necessary vouchers, within one year after the date of the first publication of this notice, to said administrator, at his office in the city of Colfax, Whitman county, Washington.

Dated November 9, 1900.

Date of first publication November 9, 1900.

MARIN R. KRAUSE, Administrator of the estate of Nancy Beasley, deceased.

First publication, November 9, 1900.

Last publication, December 7, 1900.

Notice of Dissolution of Partnership.

Notice is hereby given that the co-partnership heretofore existing under the firm name and style of Davis & Moffatt, has been dissolved by mutual consent.

Dated this 1st day of November, 1900.

A. J. DAVIS, H. M. MOFFATT.

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