

Farmer's Column.



Give fools their gold & knives their power. Let fortune's bubbles rise and fall. Who sows a field or trains a flower. Or plants a tree, is more than all.

A Word for Mutton.

The mutton of a well fed sheep of every breed, from the Downs and Shires down to the little woolled Saxony, is palatable and healthful. None of the objections urged against the use of the hog can be brought against the sheep. It has never been known to impart scrofula, trichinae or tapeworms to its consumers. The sheep does not thrive in the mire, nor does it consume garbage or vermin, or decaying meats or vegetables. It does not wallow in the trough it feeds from, but it is a dainty and a careful feeder and as cleanly as needs be in its habits. Mutton is produced easier and cheaper than beef, is just as nutritious and may be served in as great a variety of forms. As a steady food it is far superior to poultry, and costs no more. We mean fat, good, juicy mutton, not that from the half starved, scabby or foot disordered specimens that have outlived their breeding age and been shorn of fleeces enough to furnish shoddy blankets for a tribe of Indians. People in cities seldom know how really good mutton tastes, and the remark may also apply to most families upon the farm. The latter too often fail to try it. We know of many well to do farmers, men who have well stocked farms, who do not slaughter a sheep during a twelve-month, yet who kill a pig every month in the summer season, and in the fall "put down" pork enough to last every other month during the year. This is a nation of meat eaters, but it confines itself too exclusively to pork and beef. It is better to sandwich in a little more mutton. A few sheep for family consumption, even when they are not kept for sale or for wool, will be found a most excellent investment on all farms.

Breaking Colts.

Colt breaking should begin at the birth of the colt, because he then instinctively shows his fear or timidity to man, which should then be completely dissipated. This is a singular fact. The young calf, or the dog, or any other of the domestic animals, betray no such positive fear at birth. But the dam, no matter how gentle she may have been as a favorite horse for years, as well as the colt itself, will endeavor to elude the caresses of man as soon as the colt has strength enough to use its limbs. He is a wise colt breaker, who loses no time in overcoming this timidity. Some breeders have adopted the practice of having their most valuable brood mares drop their foals in a large paddock, so that they can handle the foals, and at once disarm them of their instinctive fear of man. This can be so successfully done in a few days, that the colt in the open field, and when he grows up to mature horsehood, will never fail to come up to his owner, or even to strangers in the field for their caresses. The colt is naturally suspicious but when that suspicion is overcome, then his affectionate confidence has no limit. Every thoughtful colt breaker therefore, will use his sagacity to accomplish this result by considerate kindness to the colts under his tuition. -Live Stock Journal.

Farm and Garden Notes.

Never breed from scrub animals. Are your fences and gates in order. Don't neglect the vegetable garden. The best stock is ever the most profitable. Poor tools and bad seed are always "no good." Sweet butter cannot be made from cream under which they and thick sour milk have formed. The moment they forms it has passed the point of perfection. Carry horses frequently in spring to aid in removing their old coat. A small quantity of oil meal added to their feed will also greatly assist in its removal. Discontinue this when they are at work. A lamb saved now may be worth dollars next fall. What is called "bad luck" in raising lambs is sometimes bad management, or no management at all. If the sheep are healthy, nearly every one well formed should be raised, and nothing pays the owner better than close, personal attention to them. A writer says that he has never failed to cure garget by the use of beans. He feeds one pint of bean meal, for four successive days, and has found that quantity sufficient to cure the worse cases. He thinks if cows were fed with bean meal several times a year they would never be troubled with the garget. It is no rare thing for those having cows to sell to allow them to go un-milked for a time or two before selling in order to impress the buyer with a well-filled udder. Although we have never heard of the law in this country preventing such a thing, a cow dealer was recently fined \$20 and costs for an offense of this kind in England.

Time.

Human ingenuity cannot make time. It can only invent methods of measuring the hours and minutes as they pass. When the earth was young, shadows cast by sunbeams noted the passing hours. From these sprang the sun-dial, which answered while the sun shone, but failed when the sky was cloudy. Then the water clocks, or clepsydra, as they are technically known, came into use. By these, Athenian orators were wont to time their speeches 2,000 years ago. After the water clock came the hour glass of running sand, and for 300 years this was the common method of measuring time. Even fifty years ago it was employed in churches to inform the elder when he had preached enough.

Meanwhile various rude forms of clocks had been constructed, but not of much use. Not until the invention of the pendulum in the middle of the seventeenth century, and its application to the clocks, did they become reliable. The clocks and watches of today are so numerous and cheap that nearly every school-boy can afford to carry a "time piece." Yet all the clocks and watches in the world cannot tell the time of day unless regulated by the sun. They merely show the amount of passing time. The sun shows what time it is, whether morning, noon or night. Strange mistakes are often made by relying solely on a clock time. A party of travelers, for long ago, were on their way west through Arizona. Arriving at Yuma at 8 o'clock, railroad time, they were surprised to find the dining room clock indicating an hour earlier. Still more were they surprised, after having leisurely eaten breakfast to learn, on embarking again, that it was but 6 o'clock. Strange, they thought: arrive at eight; breakfast at seven, and leave at six! Two hours gain! But clocks were right. The first kept Jefferson City (Mo.) time; the second was Yuma time, and the last was San Francisco time. Places east and west of each other cannot have the same time. Only those places north and south are thus favored. Could a man continually travel around the earth, keeping with the sun, he might live his allotted space of "three score years and ten" within a single day, for the sun would never rise or set to him. It would always be day.

Yet even then he could not make time. He could not prolong his life nor give to the world more hours. The only way to make time is to make use of it, every moment as it comes. Times once gone is gone forever, whether the clock says so or not. A little fellow discovered a bee crawling upon his hand. Finally the bee stopped for a moment, and after remaining stationary for an instant, stung the little fellow. When the cry of pain was over, the little child said to his mamma that he didn't care for the bee's walking on him, but he didn't like his sitting down on him.

The Cashier Ahead.

A new bank which had been established in a town in Indiana had engaged the services of a watchman who came well recommended, but who did not seem over experienced. The president therefore sent him to post him up a bit, and began: "James, this is your first job of this kind, isn't it?" "Yes, sir." "Your first duty must be to exercise vigilance." "Yes, sir." "Be careful how strangers approach you." "I will sir." "No stranger must be permitted to enter the bank at night under any pretext whatever." "No, sir." "And our cashier—he is a good man, honest, reliable and thoroughly trustworthy, but it will be your duty to keep an eye on him." "But it will be hard to watch two men and the bank at the same time, sir?" "Two men—how?" "Why, sir, it was only yesterday that the cashier called me in for a talk, and he said you were the quietest man in Indiana, but that it would be just well to keep both eyes on you, and let the directors know if you hang around after hours." -Wall Street News.

VARIETIES.

An experienced barber never talks hair dye to a bald headed man. Of all thieves fools are the worst; they rob you of time and temper. It is not enough to remember the poor. Give them something to make them remember you. That was a good prescription given by a physician to a patient. Do something for somebody. At the last day, it will not be asked who did, or what we believed, but what we loved. Don't judge a man by his speech, a parrot talks, for the tongue is but an instrument of sound. The only way for a rich man to be healthy is to exercise abstinence—to live as if he were poor. It is noted by a philologist that "possesses" possesses more than any other common word possesses. No matter if the postage is reduced, it is just as much trouble to lick two-cent stamps as three cent ones. The youth who gets shaved by a barber for the first time doesn't know whether to be tickled or ashamed. The most pronounced lie on record is that of a young man who asserts to like his girl's little brother. If you ask a bald-headed man how he would prefer to be unpollstered, he'd likely express a desire for mo'-hair on top of his head. It is good discretion not to make too much of any man at the first; because one cannot hold out that proportion. Teacher—"What is the definition of flirtation?" Intelligent young pupil—"It is attention without intention." "What is this man charged with?" asked the Judge. "With whiskey, yer honor," replied the sententious policeman.

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