

Agricultural.

BIRTH-DAY OF THE PATRONS.

[Head at the Anniversary Celebration of the order, at B. R. Walt's, in Stone, Dec. 4th.]
All hail! Birth-day of the patrons;
All hail! to our order to-day;
From Atlantic unto the Pacific,
We have rushed to the bloodless fray.

One million, five hundred thousand,
Fill our brave ranks to-day,
All hail! to the order of Patrons;
All hail! All Hail! we say.

We have gathered from every hill-side,
We have rallied from every plain,
And many the victories we've gained us
And many old errors we've slain.

Our helmet, it's "hope in the future,"
The sword of truth, it's our defence,
We trust its keen edge, for our freedom;
It will sever our fetters immense.

Our shield, the Almighty Father,
Our banner, the "Banner of Love,"
Our faith in justice unbounded,
Our watchword is onward more.

Six years has the warfare been raging,
And but one since we've joined the ranks;
Our success is our surprise,
As we move with the brave phalanx.

The missiles aimed at our order,
Pass us all harmlessly by;
And as for attempts to fright us,
They might just as well not try.

Then let us ne'er be disheartened;
Let us work while yet it is day,
Gird on our incomparable armor,
While others stand back in dismay.

Let us feel the true bliss of freedom,
Freedom in grand work, and know
All the glories of true manhood,
That for all true laborers glow.

The times need thinkers, heroes;
With hammers true as steel,
To strike hard blows for truth and right,
And make oppression kneel.

Their golden hammers of rich thought,
Should echo 'round the world,
Till o'er all men from east to west,
Our banner is unfurled.

The world needs noble men, and just,
To fight the battles of the time;
Bold leaders, who shall put their trust
In God, and truth sublime.

This is the time for good deeds,—
A thought takes wings of flame, and flies,
Along our paths are sown the seeds
Of golden harvests, that will rise.

Then sows the seed of mighty truth,
Nor doubt Almighty power,
Will years less surely bring the oak
Than months the summer flower?

"May it be our great endeavor
To press onward with the best,
Nothing daunted, may we never
Give ourselves a moment's rest."

"Thinking that the hours will linger
For some noble work undone,
Time with fixed unerring finger
Points us to the setting sun."
—EUGENE POTTER.

Advice to Farmers.

1. Take good papers and read them.
2. Keep an account of farming operations.
3. Do not leave implements scattered over the farm, exposed to snow, rain and heat.
4. Repair tools and buildings at a proper time, and do not suffer subsequent threefold expenditure of time and money.
5. Use money judiciously, and do not attend auction sales and purchase all kind of trumpery because it is cheap.
6. See that fences are well repaired, and cattle not grazing in the meadows, or grain fields or orchards.
7. Do not refuse to make correct experiments, in a small way, of many new things.
8. Plant fruit trees well, care for them, and get good crops.
9. Practice economy by giving stock shelter during the winter; also good food, taking out all that is unsound, half rotten or mouldy.
10. Do not keep tribes of dogs and cats around the premises, who eat more in a month than they are worth all their life time.—Morning Star.

Sheep.—No stock suffers more from damp, cold quarters than sheep. They will winter better in an open field than in a low, damp, filthy yard. But they should be spared either of these inflections. An open shed that may be closed in driving storms ought to be provided, with a roomy yard in which they may lie in fair weather. Oats and corn are both dear this season, and bran, rye or buckwheat may be given with equal profit. A little variation of food is good for sheep, but the changes should not be made frequently, or they will learn to look for it and become dissatisfied. Frozen grass or cold, watery food is bad for ewes that are to lamb early.

—A writer in Scribner's Monthly thinks that the much-used expression "excuse my glove" when offering the hand, is an absurd and mistaken form of politeness. There is no impropriety in wearing gloves, and there can be no impropriety in offering the hand with one. It would be just as reasonable to say "excuse my coat" or "my boots."

—John Ballis, of Benson, a well known wool grower and extensive farmer, has recently failed and gone into bankruptcy, with liabilities of over \$40,000.

Is It Profitable to Keep Fowls?

Among farmers, if the question was asked, whether it was really profitable to keep fowls, there would be in nearly all cases this response to the inquiry: that fowls, fairly managed, could not fail to be remunerative or profitable to their owners; and to those residing in villages with a sufficient amount of room to keep them, and with the right kind of management, the same definite answer may be made, that fowls are also profitable, and it is really of sufficient pecuniary advantage for all families who can do so to certainly keep them.

The management of fowls should be materially different when kept in the village from those kept on the farm; for, while farmers, as a general rule, can allow the fowls to stroll over a large range of land, and thus in a natural way keep them, in villages those who can must necessarily do so in a confined, and consequently somewhat unnatural manner; but if the fowls are not raised nor kept but a limited time under the unnatural restraints which it is absolutely necessary to keep them, the injuries resulting from confinement will not be much, or the risk of keeping the fowls be a serious obstacle in the way of those who may desire to keep them. A fresh lot of pullets should be obtained of farmers every year by those who intend to keep fowls in villages, and early hatched chickens, if possible, and at the end of a year, or just before moulting, these fowls should be in some manner disposed of, and a fresh lot of pullets purchased; and in this way the following advantages will be gained in the method of keeping fowls: The growth of a pullet will increase in weight nearly double the amount when purchased, and the number of eggs obtained will be materially larger than if kept for more than a year—and it may be safely estimated by any one in the experience of this way of keeping fowls that the eggs from them, and the value of the dressed meat at the end of the year's keeping, will come to double in amount of money that has been invested in food and the outlay in the investment for the pullets.

To say nothing of the value of the droppings from the hens, the advantages of a certainty of always securing good, rich eggs more than compensates the keeper of fowls, when these same eggs are to be consumed by a family. If they have been well kept on a good variety of food adapted to their nature, the certainty of a fine quality of animal food is ensured. A cross between the pure-blooded creole and the common varieties of fowls usually kept is a very good kind of pullets to be obtained by those wishing to keep fowls on the plan above stated, as they are thrifty and will be fair in size for dressing, and will not have much tendency to setting.

DESTROYING RATS ON FARMS.—Winter is the time for catching rats, and, if the number of these vermin are kept down in winter, they will seldom trouble the farmer in summer. Every farmer knows that rats, especially if disturbed about the barn, take to the fields after corn-shocking time, when nearly, or quite all, may be killed when the shocks are moved, if one have a well-trained dog. So, also, large numbers may be killed sometimes under stacks by taking advantage of their peculiar habits.

Rats are never found in stacks, shocks of corn, corn-crisbs, granaries, or other like places. Their homes are in the ground, under these places, and, by taking advantage of this fact, a little energy and tact will easily dislodge and destroy them. We once had a Newfoundland dog, the best ratter we ever saw. He seemed to have come to an understanding with a little Skye terrier, by which the little dog became jealous to the big one. There was a deep ditch and bank running between the hoghouse and yard and other farm buildings, in which the rats took refuge in large numbers. The two dogs, with much noise and barking would run up and down the bank, when suddenly, the terrier would begin digging hard at a hole selected, the large dog meanwhile sitting quietly a short distance off, but actively observing. Pretty soon a rat would pop out of a hole and scud away, only to find itself picked up promptly by the Newfoundland, which always allowed the smaller dog to finally kill the rat. These two persistent hunters would thus go from one hiding-place to another, but their chief dependence was the bank, except during the summer and early fall, since here was always a dry refuge for the rats.

Poisoning rats is not difficult if the proper plan is adopted. It is often to get rats to take poison if it is mixed at first with the food placed for them, but if they are allowed to eat of the bait until they come fearlessly and regularly, they may then be poisoned and large numbers of rats destroyed. If rats, when poisoned, will be likely to die in some situation where they may become offensive, they may be baited upon a large oak, the head of which is so arranged that it will tip and throw the rat into the cask, in which sufficient water should be placed to drown the vermin. Fasten the head and bait till the rats come regularly. Then set it to catch and the haul will generally be a good one.

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Ayer's Hair Vigor,
For restoring to Gray Hair its natural Vitality and Color.
A dressing which is at once agreeable, healthy, and effectual for preserving the hair. It soon restores faded or gray hair to its original color, with the gloss and freshness of youth. Thin hair is thickened, falling hair checked, and baldness often, though not always, cured by its use. Nothing can restore the hair where the follicles are destroyed, or the glands atrophied and decayed; but such as remain can be saved by this application, and stimulated into activity, so that a new growth of hair is produced. Instead of fouling the hair with a pasty sediment, it will keep it clean and vigorous. Its occasional use will prevent the hair from turning gray or falling off, and consequently prevent baldness. The restoration of vitality it gives to the scalp arrests and prevents the formation of dandruff, which is often so uncleanly and offensive. Free from those deleterious substances which make some preparations dangerous and injurious to the hair, the Vigor can only benefit but not harm it. If wanted merely for a HAIR DRESSING, nothing else can be found so desirable. Containing neither oil nor dye, it does not soil white cambric, and yet lasts long on the hair, giving it a rich, glossy lustre, and a grateful perfume.

For Female Complaints, in young or old, married or single, at the dawn of womanhood or the turn of life, these Tonic Bitters display so decided an influence that improvement is soon perceptible.
Jaundice.—In all cases of jaundice, rest assured that your liver is not doing its work. The only sensible treatment is to promote the secretion of the bile and favor its removal. For this purpose use VINEGAR BITTERS.

Cleanse the Vitiated Blood whenever you find its impurities bursting through the skin in Pimples, Eruptions, or Sores; cleanse it when you find it obstructed and sluggish in the veins; cleanse it when it is foul; your feelings will tell you when. Keep the blood pure, and the health of the system will follow.

Prepared by Dr. J. C. Ayer & Co., Lowell, Mass.

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CENTRAL VERMONT R. R. LINE
SUMMER ARRANGEMENT.
Commencing June 25, 1874.
Trains leaving South and East—Leave Waterbury at 8:45 a. m., 9:15 a. m., and 9:45 a. m. All trains leave St. Albans at 7:30 a. m., and connect with trains for Boston, Worcester, Springfield, and N. Y., at New London with steamer for New York.
Expresses leave Montreal at 9:05 a. m., St. Johns at 10:00 a. m., Ceglensburg at 6:00 a. m., St. Albans at 12:15 a. m., arriving in Boston via Lowell at 10 p. m.
Night Express leaves Waterbury at 12:35 p. m., Montreal at 3:30 p. m., St. Albans at 5:00 p. m., for Burlington, Montreal, St. Albans, etc., arriving in Montreal at 9:15 p. m., and Ogdenburg at 12:40 p. m.
Trains going North and West—Leave Waterbury at 1:15 a. m., 3:35 a. m., 4:30 p. m., and 9:45 p. m. Day Express leaves Boston via Lowell at 8 a. m., for Burlington, Montreal, St. Albans, etc., arriving in Montreal at 9:15 p. m., and Ogdenburg at 12:40 p. m.
Night train for Burlington and St. Albans leaves Waterbury at 7 a. m., via Lawrence and Fitchburg at 7:30 a. m., Springfield at 9:00 a. m., New London at 11:30 a. m., connecting with trains for White River Junction at 2:30 p. m., arriving in St. Albans at 9:00 p. m.
Night Express leaves Waterbury at