

Farmers' Column. PIG BREEDING AND FEEDING.

A few days since a lecture on the breeding and feeding of pigs was delivered to the members of the Worcester Agricultural Society, by Mr. Baldwin, of Bredon House near Birmingham.

In opening the lecture, Mr. Baldwin said—in 1846 he entered on a farm at Kingsnorton. In 1846, he purchased two gilts and a boar, of the Tamworth breed, from his cousin Mr. T. Baldwin, of Barnsgreen, who was famed for his breeds of Tamworths; and although he (the lecturer) commenced breeding with three pigs in 1846, in 1851 he sold £1,000 worth of store and fat pigs within one year; and in the years 1852, 1853, 1854, and 1855 he sold £1,000 worth each year.

ing too heating. He gave them one pint of corn in the morning, and the other in the evening, with regularity as to time and quantity, and found it better to give it to them on the grass in a clean place each time, than in a trough, as it prevented quarrelling, and each pig got his share. With this quart of corn per day, and what grass they got during the seven months of the year, with nothing but water to drink, the pigs, would, on an average, make five lbs. of pork each per week. After eight months he allowed an extra half-pint of corn per day. At the present price of corn the allowance would cost about 1s. per week for each pig; grass 2d.; straw 1d.; total cost 1s. 3d., making a profit of one shilling per week on each pig, when pork was sold, per lb.; it was now 7d. Mr. Baldwin attended well to from 200 to 250 pigs; he was an Irishman, for few Englishmen liked the job sufficiently well to take an interest in the pigs, and carelessness on the part of the man materially decreased the profit. He kept the store sows when in pig the same as the other sows. They ran about in a field till about a fortnight before pigging, when he placed them in a covered shed, so constructed as to admit as much sun as possible. Young pigs kept in the manner described were always nearly fat enough for porkers, and did not require more than two or three weeks feeding on meal. It was time enough to begin to feed pigs for bacon at 8 or 10 months old. Good breeding sows he allowed to have two farrows and sometimes three, but never more, and then feed them for bacon, supplying their places with young sows. In selling store pigs he charged a certain price per lb., allowing the purchaser to pick the pigs from the field, which plan always gave satisfaction, and secured a return of custom. It was desirable in breeding animals to have as little bone as possible in proportion to flesh. He had tested a cut sow of his breed, about 30 months old, which weighed 32 stone, and the whole of the bones, after the flesh had been boiled from them, only weighed 21 lbs.; so that for every pound of bone there was 32 lbs. of meat, which he believed to be a fair average of his breed. His pigs made 2 lbs. of flesh for every 4 lbs. of good Indian corn, barley or peas; as a rule he preferred the Indian corn. He considered it always to be more profitable to feed on good food than upon inferior. As a rule, pigs would thrive better for being turned out once a day, except in wet weather, and they would be healthier, more active, have a cleaner appearance, would possess a great advantage in the show-yard, over heavy, ungainly pigs, which could not move about to show themselves. One of the greatest pleasures which his breeding afforded him, was to see the number of laboring men who came to buy from him, and he hoped to see the time when every laboring man would have a good pig in his sty.

Olds and Ends. Over-warm friendships, like hot potatoes, are quickly dropped. It is beauty's privilege to kill time, and time's privilege to kill beauty. Before you form an intimacy with a man, learn how he acted towards his former friends. We have always a suspicion of sonorous sentences. The full shell sounds little, showing by that little how much is within. A down-east editor advises his readers, if they wish to get teeth inserted gratis, to go and steal fruit when his watch dog is on guard. Since the introduction of young ladies to work the instruments, telegraphic courtships have in more than one instance led to hymeneal results. 'Dost thou clean my furniture, fair hand-maiden?' asked Broadbrim of his pretty servant, who was polishing his escarotire. 'I dust,' replied the maiden. A bachelor says:—'The reason why the women do not put themselves in two by tight-lacing is, because they lace around the heart, and that is so hard they cannot affect it.' 'I repeat,' said a person of questionable veracity, 'that I am an honest man.'—'Yes,' was the reply, 'and how often will you have to repeat it before you believe it yourself?' The editress of the Ladies' Repository says, 'The nation wants a man; and the Midford Journal asks if that lady has not 'confounded her own personal want with that of the nation?' Lord Byron made a comparison of divers languages with music. 'The Russian tongue,' says he, 'is like a kettle-drum; the German like a bass-viol; French as a wedding-hymn; the Italian like an Aeolian harp; the English only being the human voice.' Lord Strangford asked a clergyman at the bottom of his table why the goose, if there was one, was always placed next the parson. 'Really,' said the rev. guest, 'I can give no reason for it; but your question is so odd that I shall never see a goose for the future without thinking of your lordship.'

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