

FACTS FOR FARMERS.

More Economy Practised the Bigger Will be the Profits.

BOOKKEEPING FOR THE FARM.

Notes of Interest and Importance Which Should be Read by All.

Keep Down Expenses.

The profits derived is that sum left over from the gross receipts after all the expenses have been deducted, and the more economy practised the smaller the expenses, and consequently there is a correspondingly larger profit. There are seasons of the year when it is difficult to curtail expenses, but farmers sometimes entail upon themselves expenses that may be avoided by using discretion. To retain that which entails of itself an expense is to add to the expense itself, and to endeavor to do more than the capacity of the farm permits is to add expense by curtailing the productive power of those things that are more largely depended upon to afford a profit. Such is the case when the land is taxed to perform a service—that of producing a crop—without being supplied with the proper amount of manure or fertilizer, the expense of labor required to secure a crop from land so treated being sometimes equal to that necessary for the securing of abundant yields.

During the summer season all expenses are lessened to a certain extent, as the stock goes to the food in the pasture, seek the water required, and need less attention to protect from the weather, while in the winter the food and water must be supplied at the barn. This handling of the food, and the necessary management of stock is so much expense that must be incurred on all farms, but to economize in that direction the farmer should keep only the stock necessary to consume, and thereby convert into meat, butter and milk the foods which are best salable in those forms. To retain something that does not produce him a profit is to incur an expense, and to be content with the produce of one-half of the flock or herd, instead of demanding the full quota from all, or to compel the profitable stock to support that which is unprofitable, which doubles the expense to the farmer and also reduces his profits to that extent.

As the summer passes away and the cold season begins it must be kept in view that each animal must consume a greater proportion of food, and the reduction of expense must be made by reducing the number of animals, culling out all that do not give prospect of immediate profit. Expenses may be reduced also by plowing the land and hauling out manure at such seasons when it can be done advantageously, instead of waiting until pressing work is in the way; and expenses may be reduced by seeding down uncultivated land with rye, to be plowed under in the spring. There is no economy in dispensing with necessary stock or tools, or omitting labor that should be applied, but everything for winter may be made ready in advance with a view to have all expenses reduced to a minimum, and in every direction.

Now is the Time to Sell.

Now is the best time to dispose of the poorer of your farm animals. They have presumably been on good pastures and are in good condition, and have been put in that condition by very cheap food. The pastures have already begun to deteriorate, and from this on more expensive feed only will be available. The chances are that even with a liberal supply of feed the poorest animals will scarcely hold their own; certainly it will not pay to feed them from this time on, much less to shelter them during the winter. They will net you more now than at any other time. When you cull, cull hard. Assort out not only the worst, but all but the best. Why handle any but the most profitable when there is not any law prohibiting your having the most profitable?

Prevention Better Than Cure.

It will require twice as much food to replace a pound of lost flesh as to retain it. Animals too often loose flesh at this season, because of the scant pasture or scant drink. If a green fodder crop has not been grown to reinforce the pastures at this time, a serious mistake has been made and it will be better to cut some of the feed corn than to allow the animals to lose flesh. An abundant supply of pure, cool water is needed. Better far dig another well than to allow the animals to want for water, or to drive them a mile through the hot sun to some near stream or spring.

Keeping Farm Accounts.

I want to suggest to your readers what I believe would lead to a very profitable and interesting result. If a number of farmers would each provide himself with a blank book and keep an account expense and product with each field he cultivates, charging it upon a page of its own, with all cost of cultivation, just as he would charge a man or a stranger, and include interest on the value of the field, and all taxes, cost of harvesting and preparation for market, and then upon the opposite page credit the field with the value of its product, and so with each field of his farm, keeping a true and strict account, he would soon, at least in a few years, know just how much it would cost to raise a bushel of wheat, corn or oats or ton of hay, and which crop has the most money in it. The publication of a few of these results would be a very good guide to other farmers, and a useful mirror for a farmer to examine his own performance in.—*Practical Farmer.*

No Mortgages.

Don't mortgage the farm to borrow money to lend again, expecting to make a few dollars' profit by exorbitant interest, or to buy a carriage, or a fast horse, or a piano, or fine furniture, or to buy more land. But for a pure bred bull to improve the herd, for a portable creamery, to drain the wet pastures, to buy the best hay-making machinery, to build a comfortable barn, to secure a supply of pure water, or to add a summer kitchen and a winter wood shed to the house, you may borrow safely, if you will only refrain from spending until the debt is paid.

Better Than Gold.

The best wealth is the fertility of the soil. The country that largely imports

fertilizers and plant food will become gradually wealthy, and the time will come when such country will have more for sale than she can consume. Fertilizers are more lasting and permanent than gold, and can be drawn upon for a return when everything else fails. The same applies to the individual farmer. The richer his soil the greater his resources and the more secure his investment.

Get a Fodder Cutter.

No farmer can afford to be without a fodder cutter, and where 10 head of stock are kept, a horse power grinding mill would be a good investment. Once upon a time, where 6 oxen and 12 horses were fed, the use of a cutter and a mill saved one-third of the hay and grain the first winter. This was equal to the feeding of 2 oxen and 4 horses for nothing. Such saving makes the difference between profit and loss.

Agricultural Notes.

Cows need salt regularly, particularly in a rainy time.

Remove the suckers from all trees, as they rob the trees of nourishment.

Neither clover nor grass should be suffered to get too ripe before cutting.

An old farmer says nine times out of ten it pays best to sell any crops as soon as ready for market.

One advantage of ducks is that they are easily fed, and nothing disagrees with them if it is sweet.

Wheat is one of the best foods for hens to promote laying, as wheat contains a larger per cent. of albumen than any other grain.

Grass that is cut by the lawn-mower is excellent for the hens, and may be cured and stored away for winter use for that purpose.

Charcoal in some form and lime should always be kept convenient where the fowls can help themselves, especially during the spring and summer.

An exchange suggests that many insects which are fruit pests, or would be another season, can be destroyed by turning the hogs in the orchard as soon as the insect-stung apples begin to drop off.

There are no bees so good for the table as those intended for that purpose. Growing the varieties intended for stock, with the view of using them on the table, is a mistake. The large varieties are too coarse and tough.

Small, knobby fruit of any kind is a non-paying article. It is better to grow a dozen berries to make a pint than to grow fifty. With grapes, remember that ten bunches weighing fifty pounds will sell better than twenty bunches making the same weight.

A dairyman claims that two ounces of salt per day to each cow increased the butter product one-fifth, which indicates that a loss may occur by the failure to supply some inexpensive essential, though the farmer may be feeding liberally and giving his animals the best of care otherwise.

It is estimated that some grain crops will take up as much as five hundred tons of water in one day on one acre of land. This is an enormous quantity, and teaches the importance of keeping the surface of the ground well cultivated, as a loose top soil prevents loss of moisture by evaporation. The roots of plants go down low into the soil and bring the water to the surface.

The practice of allowing grass and weeds to grow in the corn rows after the ears are formed is unwise. The corn land should be kept clean until the crop is harvested. Every weed that grows robs the corn of just that proportion of plant food and prevents larger ears and heavier grain, as well as distributing the seeds for a crop of weeds next season.

As a sheep dip the following is recommended by a breeder: Add forty pounds of soft soap to ten gallons of boiling water, and while boiling add one pound of carbolic acid. This may then be thinned down with 100 gallons of cold water. The quantity is sufficient for dipping seventy-five sheep.

Nothing is better to prevent loss of ammonia from the manure heap than soap. Keep the heap well saturated, and make holes in the heap so that soap suds can pass down to the bottom of the heap. Chemical action is facilitated, but there are formations of salts that prevent loss.

A crop of weeds removes from the soil as much of the elements of fertility as a crop of grain, and exhausts the land just as quickly. Do not grow weeds. Plow them under as soon as they take possession of the land, by which process they are returned to the soil from whence they came.

Kerosene is fatal to all kinds of insects, and for that reason it is frequently used as a preventive of damage by the cabbage worm. An objection to its use is that the kerosene impregnates the cabbage with its odor. The remedy is as obnoxious as the work of the cabbage-worm.

Remove all surplus honey at the close of the honey season if intended for market. Comb honey will become solid if left on the hives during the summer. The upper stories or surplus chambers should be left on the hives throughout the hot weather and until feeding is done in the fall.

Look out for late swarms! The bees may be lacking in stores and are liable to swarm out and leave. They must be supplied with honey or united with other colonies. Also look out for queenless colonies at this time of the season. If colonies are left queenless any length of time robbers will destroy them.

The woman teachers of Germany, besides a great pension association, have had an insurance society of their own for the last six years. For a monthly fee of 25 cents a member can, in case of sickness, draw a \$2.50 a week for 13 weeks, and for the same period again after an interval of six weeks. Over \$2,000 has been paid out. Women between 18 and 45 years old who have a doctor's certificate of good health are admitted. The society has a good surplus and is thinking of reducing the fee except when an unusual amount of sickness occurs.

Miss Minerva Parker, a Philadelphia architect, has been picked out by the executive committee of the women's department of the World's Fair to draw plans for the Queen Isabella pavilion to be erected on the grounds of the women's department.

The loquacious man is not always a fool; he may be talking to keep from hearing other people talk.

A LITTLE GREEN CARD.

How It Keeps a Watch on Careless Letter Carriers.

There is a little green card in use by the post-office department that is a terror to some of the more careless letter carriers. It is a terror only when they have once been caught. Very seldom, indeed, are they caught the second time. The card is dropped in a letter box, and on it is marked the time it was put in and also the time it should be taken out by the carrier. A record is kept by the chief of the carriers, and if that little card does not turn up with the other mail with which it is due, it is clearly to be seen that the carrier has not taken the mail from that particular box.

The object, of course, is to test the reliability of the carriers. Where there is any complaint on the part of the citizens about the tardiness of local mails then a little green card is dropped in one or more boxes in the districts from which the complaint comes. Sometimes it shows carelessness on the part of the carrier and sometimes it does not. It is, however, not necessary that there should be complaints, for frequently the cards are put in the boxes of the most efficient men.

Of course they are happy when they discover them. But where a box is missed in which there is a green card, then the carrier is bound to get into trouble, and very serious trouble at that.

This card has been in use by the post-office department for a good many years in all parts of the country. They were first used in this country under the administration of Postmaster Haidekoper. They are furnished by requisition upon the department at Washington.—*Philadelphia Times.*

An American LL.D.

A correspondent writes to a contemporary: Considerable amusement was created in a Scotch police court when a sweep about to give evidence in a case of assault, was asked his name and replied: "Dr. Thomas Macleod." "Doctor?" ejaculated the sheriff, "doctor of what?" "I dinna ken," the begrimed individual answered, "but I'm what they ca' an LL.D., and that, folks say, is muckle the same thing." "Well," asked the court, scarcely able to maintain its gravity, "how did you acquire such a distinguished academical honor?" "Weel, sir, it was like this. A Yankee chiel that was agent for yin o' the colleges in his ain country cam tae bide hereabouts wi' his family for the summer. I scoopt his three lums thrice, but deil a bawbee could I get out o' him. As day I yokit airt at the cratur for the siller, an' says he, 'Weel, Tammas, I'll make an LL.D. o' ye, an' that will pit us even.' I just took him at his offer, as there seemed to be naething else for't. I've gotten my diploma framed at hame, an' I can tell ye, sir, a bonny picture it mak's."—*Kirkcaldy (Scotland) Mail.*

Great Britain's Silver Coinage.

In the silver coinage in Great Britain last year the chief demand was for half-crown pieces to the value of £601,495, and for £451,806 in crowns. No "fourpennybits"—save a few for the ancient "Maundy"—were struck. The "fourpenny" indeed has been doomed for years, but the "three-penny" is still highly popular—witness the item of over £1,000 supplied in the form of this little coin "to private persons," and that although private applicants for this coin were up to the end of last year referred to a certain London bank which held a stock of these coins in excess of its requirements. Crowns and double florins were freely asked for by the larger employers of labor, who find them convenient for the payment of wages. The extraordinary demand for silver is officially attributed to the revival of trade, in the United Kingdom. The coinage of florins, shillings and sixpences reached the respective totals of £297,356, £361,981, and £218,473, and the value of the three-penny pieces issued amounted to £57,393. The bronze coinage amounted to £68,474.

A New Anesthetic.

I am told that discovery has been made of a new local drug for producing anaesthesia of the skin. The discovery is said to be due to a German medical man, who had intended bringing his investigations and results in connection therewith before the International Medical congress now sitting at Berlin. This, however, was found to be impossible, and some time will yet have to elapse before the profession can be made acquainted with the name and properties of the new drug. That the introduction of such a drug will be hailed with immense gratification by doctors is conceivable enough. At present there is no preparation the properties of which are such as to render the skin insensible merely by local application, and yet in the performance of minor operations nothing would be more useful.—*London Correspondence Manchester Guardian.*

The Longest Word.

A word on another subject: An inquiry recently appeared in your columns as to the longest word in the English language. Here it is: "Honorificabilitudinitatibus." The word is given by Nathaniel Bailey in his English dictionary, published about 1721, with the definition "honorableness."—*A. D. S. in the New York Sun.*

"What are you laughing at so?" he asked, suddenly starting up in bed. The wife checked her laughter at once. "I couldn't help it, John. I dreamt I was a widow."

The last report of the work of the "Slum Evangers" in London shows that the number of workers has increased from two to 80. They give their whole time to house-to-house visitations, to nursing the sick, feeding the hungry and doing gospel work. Though they were coolly received at first they have succeeded in winning a welcome from those among whom they labor. In one year more than 100 young women were rescued and 6,000 children were cared for.

OBESITY is not without its advantages under certain circumstances. On Thursday a New York saloon keeper, weighing 300 lbs., fell into the river at Staten Island. Any ordinary sized man, unable to swim, would have sunk and drowned, but not so Schiffer. His enormous size and light specific gravity enabled him to float for an hour and a half till a passing boat towed him to a vessel's side, when he was hoisted to the deck by means of a tackle from the davits.

A FOREST STRUGGLE.

Two Oregon Panthers Fight to the Death For a Pioneer's Benefit.

I have often wondered what hindered the cougars from being very plentiful. They are monarchs of the woods, and are very shy, with plenty of game and cattle to live on. This spring I was talking with an old cruiser (a man who hunts for timber and good land claims), who had followed the business for the last twenty years in Oregon and this State. He never takes a gun, but carries only a blanket and a small axe. He related that one night when he was camping in the head of a ravine, about dark, he heard a cougar scream on one of the ridges and this one was answered by another on the opposite ridge. They kept working toward the head, until finally they came together some 300 yards above him in some quaking aspen; and such a row and racket as they made he had never heard before. They rolled down within 100 yards of him; and he says that he was pretty well scared; but he kept up a big fire and stayed behind that. They quieted down in a couple of hours, and the next morning, when it was light enough, he went on to the battle ground. He found one of them lying there dead, all out and torn to pieces. It was a very large one. Four days afterward, as he was coming back the same way, some 500 yards from where he had found the first one he had stumbled upon the other one, dead. This, too, was all out and torn as the first had been. At another time, in Oregon, he heard a big fight going on, but did not go to see the results. He was stopping one night with an old Indian who had hunted and trapped all his life, and was telling him about the fight when the Indian said that that was the way when two old males met; one or the other was killed, and very often both; and that whenever the male would find the young ones and the mother absent he would kill the last one of them, but if the mother were with them she would keep him off. That must be the reason that the mother goes with the young until they are nearly two years old. They say that all the cat kind will kill their young. We know that this is so with the domestic cat.—*Forest and Stream.*

EXTERMINATION INTENDED.

The recent edicts of the Russian Government against the Jews are exceptionally severe. It is ordered that in the future Jews shall reside only in towns and not in the country. No Jew will any longer be permitted to own land or even to farm land. To intensify the severity of this edict, and widen its scope, the Government officials have included many hundreds of small towns in the category of country villages, and expelled the Jews from those towns. Tens of thousands of souls will be thus rendered homeless. Jews are no longer allowed to be in any way connected with mines or mining industry, nor even to hold shares in any mine. The Jews will henceforth be practically debarred from partaking of any educational advantages, whether in schools, gymnasia or universities. Hitherto they have been allowed admission subject to the limitation that their number should not exceed 5 per cent. of the total number of students. Secret instructions have already been sent requiring the reduction of this small percentage to still lower limits, and from many of the higher educational institutions all Jewish students have been expelled.

The legal profession, in which heretofore a large number of Jews in Russia have achieved great success, will in future be closed to Jewish students. Jews are henceforth prohibited from following the professions of engineer or army doctor, or from filling any Government post, however subordinate. In the days of the Emperor Nicholas it was a subject of reproach to the Russian Jews that they were all traders and not producers. That reproach has since been wiped away, and now an enormous proportion have become skilled artisans, agriculturists, and professional men, all adding largely to the wealth of the empire. But under the new repressive laws all this communal progress is to be reversed, the artisan, the farmer and the professional man are all to be ruined, and those who survive the persecution must become traders in the overcrowded towns. It is estimated that the total number of persons who will be expelled from their homes under the new law will not be far from one million. The consequent migration and the congestion of the starving fugitives in those cities where Jews will still be allowed to dwell will be so dangerous, and possibly so pestilential in its results, that only one object can be contemplated by the instigators of these persecutions—namely, the total extermination of the four million Jews of Russia.

Hurt His Dignity.

Tramp (refusing some bread)—No, madam, I cannot accept your kind offer. My knowledge of the laws of health compels me to draw the line at that bread.

Young Matron—The idea! Perhaps it isn't good enough for you. Well, what would the Lord High Duke like to have?

Tramp (with dignity)—Madam, I may be a tramp, a loafer, a dead beat, a chicken thief, a scamp, or whatever you will have it; but I would like you to distinctly understand that I am no foreign duke, prince or count. No, Ma'am.

The census of the British Empire will be taken next year. An exchange says: The current calculation is that at the opening of the year 1890 the population of the British Empire was very nearly 328,000,000, of whom 38,126,000 were dwellers in the United Kingdom, 271,180,000 in India, and the remaining 19,000,000 in other possessions. Two years ago the Indian Government estimated the population of British India at 208,793,350, and that of the native States at 60,684,378. Assuming that the various unascertainable elements of native populations in all her possessions foot up 10,000,000, and that the natural rate of increase has been maintained, the British Empire will probably be shown to have not far from 340,000,000 population enumerated and estimated. Balm and Wagner estimated the population of the world in 1882 at 1,433,887,500 souls, of which Europe has about 328,000,000, or 22.9 per cent. less than the expected result of the British census of 1891.

We have shadowed the man who stole our umbrella.—*Dallas News.*

ALCOHOLISM.

In the volume prepared by Mr. Helboner, containing extracts from the documents and reports presented to the Social Economy section of the Paris exhibition, and printed by the Canadian Secretary of State, there is a chapter upon the means of preventing workmen from indulging to excess in the use of intoxicating liquors. The several kinds of brandies are described in order, showing the increasing noxiousness, brandy made from wine having the least toxic property and brandy made from potatoes the greatest. An extract is quoted from Zschokk, the Austrian economist, who says: "All the laws are powerless to extirpate an evil which has taken root in the lives of the people; it is with the people themselves that the moral reform must begin, and no Government is strong enough to do it." Then the report continues: "The law on drunkenness, as we have shown in our report, produces no salutary effect; it does not prevent the habitual drinker from relapsing; besides, it only punishes him who is evidently drunk; it does not reach the drinker who every day absorbs a certain quantity of alcohol without getting intoxicated, though he is the most alcoholized. To remedy this evil, we must regulate the bar-rooms with the greatest care."

"Unfortunately no law has been passed in that sense; on the contrary, we have given to the retailer every facility to sell his products. The number of drinking places is unlimited, no superintendence is exercised as to the quality of liquors sold, and the hours of sale are no longer, we might say, regulated; the rum-seller is free to do as he pleases."

"As has been well said by Mr. A. Laurent, the tavern makes the drinker, more so than the drinker makes the tavern, and when we reflect that in most of the large cities, bar-rooms are attended by women who give themselves to the first comer, we come to the conclusion that besides the poisoning we have just pointed out, there is moreover a serious cause of demoralization and a new attack on public health; this terrible evil must be cured without delay. It is only by regulating this unwholesome traffic that the drinker will be stayed in his downward course."

Then follow quotations from a lecture by Dr. R. Dubois, who says: "It has been proved that alcoholism ruled especially where wine was unknown; remove the tax on wine, you destroy at one blow adulteration; limit exportation if necessary, and plant the vine everywhere; give good wine cheap, and less brandy will be drunk; for that purpose, reduce the middlemen, and favor co-operative supply societies."

"Seize, confiscate everywhere the badly rectified alcohols; forbid the adulteration of wine; exact a heavy license from liquor sellers, and restrict their number, as also the hours of sale, and give free scope to the sale of good fermented liquors which are less hurtful; encourage the use of non-alcoholic drinks; reward those who know how to spread the use thereof; remove the tax from tea, coffee, sugar; post up tables showing the relative toxic power of spirituous liquors; multiply cautions; drive away from the country the old offenders who form 80 to 85 per cent. of the incurable and dangerous drunkards. Teach hygiene in schools, inculcate in youth the horror of drunkenness."

"It is in large centres that alcoholism causes the greatest ravages; apply yourselves to correct the inconveniences of the crowding of individuals; give plenty of air, water and light."

"Poverty, grief, fatigue bring forth vice; suppress those abominable taxes on food, by which the more mouths a workman has to feed, the more taxes he has to pay; diminish the hours of labor, increase the wages of the worker; he will thus be able to secure a comfortable home, far preferable to the tavern; induce him to economize; the worker who begins to save is not far from renouncing false enjoyments; give to the girls a practical education, so that later on they make good wives. As in America, create temperance societies, and for that purpose ask the women to lead the movement, for they suffer most from the after-blow of alcoholism, without experiencing any of its false enjoyments. Do not confine yourselves to physical hygiene, preach also moral hygiene; seek and teach the grand natural laws; make them respected, by showing the numberless miseries resulting from their inobservance; for that purpose, multiply public lectures, open libraries and work-rooms, well lighted, well heated in winter, and not kept closed precisely at the time when the workman could come."

"As a foil to *ennui* and idleness, favor theatres, concerts and assemblies where drinking is not allowed; by exciting the thirst of intelligence, you will satisfy that of the body."

The Societe de la Vieille-Montagne dismisses every workman found intoxicated in a workshop, and forbids the sale of spirituous liquors in houses belonging to the society and rented to its workmen. Among its recommendations are these:

"Dwellings. The first and perhaps the best means to keep the workman from the tavern is to give him a pleasant home. The working man who owns the house he lives in, and tends his own garden, or even the workingman who can rent a clean and neat dwelling seldom becomes an *habitué* of the tavern and a victim to alcohol. And if, moreover, that man had the luck to marry a good house-wife, we may safely leave him alone. A dirty tenement, ill-dressed children, a slovenly wife are the great auxiliaries of drunkenness. It is for that reason that the Vieille-Montagne, finding that the true place of the woman is not in the workshop, but at home, does not encourage the labor in factories of girls and women. They forbid it in the interior of their mines, even in the localities where the law allows it, and they only permit it where health and morality are safe."

"Amusements. But it does not suffice to lodge the workmen; we must also think of giving them recreations which may occupy their leisure hours in an honest and healthy way. For that purpose the Vieille-Montagne has created and patronized in all their establishments societies of amusement, orpheons, harmonies, bands, target shooting, etc."

The United States spent for pensions in the year ending June 30th last \$109,357,534. In the year ending June 30th, 1888, the amount was \$80,288,508. What the bill will be when all who bore arms in the civil war have passed from the scene nobody can guess.