

PRACTICAL FARMING.

FARM WORK IN WINTER.

Dairying will afford constant employment on a farm during all seasons of the year if it is properly conducted, but all farms are not dairy farms, and there is considerable loss of time during the season of the year when the ground is frozen and snow obstructs operations. It is true that an enterprising farmer can find something to do every month in the year, as he can repair the tools, buildings, fences and get everything in complete order for spring work, but what the farmer most desires is to engage in some employment on the farm that will bring in cash returns. Unfortunately for the large majority of farmers, says the Philadelphia Record, they will not accept the innovations on present methods. With the staple crops—wheat, corn, oats and potatoes, which are cultivated by horse power, any return to the hoe, spade or rake is not willingly done, yet the farmer will have to use the tools which enable him to derive the most from his land if he expects to compete with those who give careful attention and hand labor to crops, which not only pay well for the labor, but give a larger profit than can be secured by the usual method of farming by horse power. There is use for the horse and staple crops must be grown, but if farmers can grow something else during the winter months they will gain to that extent. The gardener is simply a farmer on a small farm, who is compelled to make several crops on a limited area instead of growing one crop on a large surface. Every farmer can add gardening to his operations. During the winter the gardener forces cucumbers, lettuce, early cabbage, kale, tomatoes and even onions. Mushrooms, which require but a small space to give a large profit, are also grown. If there is plenty of room, a large flock of hens (not turned over to women and children) are kept and given good care by the gardener. The result is that there is no time lost during the winter. After spring sets in there are early crops grown in the open air, and many varieties not seen on farms, such as cauliflower, celery, egg-plant, okra and other easily grown crops, which are somewhat rare are made specialties. These crops call for labor, and the work must be done with the hand tools, the cost of the labor being expensive, but that is of no consequence if the cost is returned in cash. In fact, the opportunity to sell labor is the point sought to be impressed on the farmer. Any crop that enables him to labor saves the time wasted in winter.

There is a fear of overstocking the market if all farmers should engage in gardening and fruit-growing. It is time to consider such a drawback when the occasion arises, and not before. It is just as easy to go out of a particular line as to go into it. Experience has shown that a large supply of any article educates the consumers to a knowledge of it and increases the demand. Fifteen years ago a New England farmer raised over a thousand ducklings, putting them into the market in winter. They were unknown to consumers and were styled "green ducks," but little sale being found, and they were almost given away. They were found excellent, however, by those who obtained them, and there was a demand for them the next winter. The buyers had been educated to a knowledge of the luxury of "green ducks" in winter. To-day the gentleman who was the pioneer raises 10,000 ducklings every year, and his example has been followed. Long Island sends over 150,000 to the New York market every season. When a choice article is grown the producer can always sell it, and the demand for an article will become established if the supply exists. The farmer who desires to branch out, to add something new to his line of productions, will have the same opportunities as others, and if there is anything connected with the growing of vegetables and fruits that he does not understand, then he should not rest satisfied until he has made himself familiar with all the details necessary to success.

DAIRY NOTES.

It is alleged, and with considerable acrimony, when it is questioned, that the flavor of butter and cheese is in no way connected with the food, but is due to some special germ by whose action on the fats in the milk the flavor is developed. Now, while it is impossible to deny, or to prove this statement by direct evidence, yet there are some facts, and many of them, that go to show distinctly that the food has very much to do with these special flavors of the milk products. For instance, one of these may be mentioned. Cheese makers know very well that fodder cheese, as the product of dry feeding is known, has a very unsatisfactory flavor, and consequently is salable only at such a low price as to greatly interfere with the sale of summer or grass-made cheese. So it is equally true and well known that butter made from dry food will not have the same flavor as the butter made from the grass of which the hay might have been made. How are these facts to be explained, if it is the individuality of the cow, and not the kind of food he eats, that controls the flavor of these products of milk?

Prof. McCay in a recent article on the flavor of butter says: It also seems that if the butter made from frozen cream is not good it is the excessive heat used in melting the cream that causes the difference in the flavor, and not the freezing. Again he states that it is the different degree of acidity which governs the flavor of cheese. My experience during nearly forty years in dairy work has shown that good butter cannot be made from frozen cream,

however it is managed. And equally, that cheese is made from sweet milk and never from acid milk, and in the curing, cheese becomes alkaline, and never acid. For in the curing of cheese it is the caseins which decomposes and produces ammonia, to which the sharp flavor of old cheese is due. Consequently, acid is not in this ripening of cheese at all.

It is very true that the ripening of the cream for butter-making is a very important part of the work. But it is not the whole of it by any means. For the nature of the food is of still more importance. It would be tasking the credulity and experience of butter-makers too much to ask them to believe that whatever the food may be the ripening will cover all defects, and make up for deficiencies in the butter. It would be opening the door to a ruinous carelessness in dairy work. The ripening of cream is always and necessarily, accompanied by, and indeed is due to the production of lactic acid in it, by the decomposition of the sugar substance, it of course produces a certain amount of viscosity to the ripening cream, and this changes the appearance of the cream so perceptibly that the degree of ripeness becomes apparent to the even moderately careful observer. It gives a soft, satiny texture to the cream which is not to be mistaken and as the cream is stirred every time a fresh quantity is added to the accumulating bulk of it, it is very easy to distinguish the progress of the ripening by this test. Over-ripening develops the butyric acid which gives the rank flavor to the butter, but if by any possibility the cream has been kept too long, the addition of fresh sweet cream to the mass will neutralize the excess, and avoid the undesirable effect of the too strong or too warm, keeping.

It is indispensable that the cream be kept at an even temperature all through. The even ripening then goes on in such a way that one may calculate on it, and be sure of the same results every time, which is most important in the making of the butter. If the cream gets too cold, and is sour, it should never be brought into a temperature higher than 70 degrees. Otherwise the heat will cause the formation of clots of the sour milk in the cream, and these will make the white specks in the churning, and it is impossible to get all these out of the butter by washing. Then too much working will be necessary to get rid of these by thorough mixing of them in the butter, and this injures the texture of the butter, making it greasy.

CAUSES OF TAINTED MILK.

Dr. Gerber, the Swiss scientist, classifies the causes of tainted milk as follows:

1. Poor fodder.
2. Poor, dirty water, used not only for watering cows, but also for washing cans.
3. Foul air in cow stables.
4. Uncleanliness in milking.
5. Keeping the milk too long in too warm and poorly ventilated places.
6. Neglecting to cool the milk quickly after milking.
7. Lack of cleanliness in the care of milk.
8. Poor transportation facilities.
9. Sick cows.
10. The cows being in heat.

A USEFUL CAT.

She Devotes Her Energies to Hunting Minks and Rabbits.

Possibly the most remarkable cat in Vermont, lives in Poultney, on the shores of Lake St. Catharine. The cat is the special pride and pet of Mrs. Henry Hastings. As a hunter, the animal has manifested extraordinary sagacity. It has actually captured more game than any hunter in the county.

Not long ago the cat entered the house with a fine mink between her sharp teeth. She walked up to Mrs. Hastings, arched her back as if wishing to be rubbed and then dropped the mink at her feet.

It was not the first time, however, that the cat had caught a mink. It has caught no less than half a dozen. All were in fine condition and exceedingly valuable for their fur. But it is as a rabbit hunter that the cat ranks preeminent. Since the beginning of this year she has caught and taken to her mistress' house nearly 160 rabbits. Many of these rabbits were as large as herself, and as a rabbit isn't much of a fighter, the shy little animals were no doubt captured without any great trouble.

Mrs. Hastings is never surprised to see a dead rabbit lying about the house. In fact, she would not be much surprised if the cat brought home a fox or other larger game. It is a remarkable fact that the cat never takes poor game home with her. The mink are always the finest, the rabbits the plumpest and the birds the tenderest.

ROYAL ACADEMY'S PRESIDENT.

Sir Edward John Poynter, the new President of the Royal Academy, though an Englishman, was born in Paris. He is 60 years of age, but looks older, probably on account of his grey beard. His first success was made when he had just turned 30. His election was followed by the conferring of a knighthood upon him by the Queen. Sir Edward is Director of the National Gallery, with an annual salary of \$5,000. As President of the Royal Academy, he will have a salary of nearly \$5,000 per annum in addition. His wife is one of three sisters who are all married to distinguished men. She was a Miss Macdonald; one of her sisters is now Lady Edward Burne-Jones, wife of the celebrated pre-Raphaelite artist; while another is the wife of Lockwood Kipling, one of the education department in India, and now head of the art schools of Bombay and Lahore. She is, therefore, the aunt of Rudyard Kipling.

POINTER FROM THE NAUTILUS.

The air-tight compartment theory of building ships was copied from a provision of nature shown in the case of the nautilus. The shell of this animal has 40 or 50 compartments, into which air or water may be admitted, to allow the occupant to sink or float as he pleases.

HEALTH.

A HEADACHE.

One of the most troublesome of the minor ills with which this poor humanity is afflicted is headache. It fastens itself with such persistency that it is almost impossible to shake it off. Medicines do not always help, and besides it is not well to get into the habit of taking medicine for everything and at all times.

There are several kinds of headaches, but the most general and distracting is nervous headache. This is usually caused by nervous exhaustion, when the worn-out nerves cease their action upon the arteries which become full of blood, pumped constantly from the heart. This undue dilation of the arteries and the pressure on the brain cause the pain and lethargy. The best remedy for such headaches for one who is subject to them is to never undertake to do more than one's strength will allow. Too much laborious housework, too much study, or worry, or anxiety is sure to bring it on. The only way to ease it would be to free the mind from all care, if possible, and go out in the fresh, sweet air. A restful sleep after a warm bath will be found wonderfully helpful and possibly much the best cure. Very often some gentle exercise night and morning will set the blood circulating and remove it from the overtaxed arteries in the head. Gymnastic exercise with the arms and legs, if one will persist in it and not overdo, will do much to prevent congestion of the arteries.

Some headaches are brought on by overeating or from indigestible food. Everyone ought to know what is best for him and what he should avoid, as far as eating is concerned. He should learn to control the appetite and he would have no headaches from such a source. In this case fasting, a mild cathartic and placing the feet in hot water for a short while, will prove effective in driving it away.

For a rheumatic headache, produced by exposure to cold draughts, the best treatment is hot applications of some kind. A hot water bag or a gentle rubbing or friction at the place of the pain will generally relieve it. Such pain should never be neglected, but should be attended to immediately, as it may become so persistent that a physician may have to be summoned. Often a headache is brought on by the kidneys or liver not performing their work correctly. For this, few things are better than exercise which will promote perspiration and stimulate the skin, such as rapid walking, horseback riding, dancing, etc.

For headaches produced by the eyes, nothing but the attendance of an oculist should be advised. The eye is such a tender and precious organ that it should receive the best of care. Eyes should never be subjected to very strong or imperfect light, and they should never be strained or abused in any manner.

"FORTY WINKS."

Well-dined humanity will feel relieved to hear the decision of the medical profession that the time-honored institution of "forty winks" after dinner is conducive to health and a beautiful recuperative process. Plethoric, full-blooded people have feared to indulge in this tempting settling of a heavy feed, several English practitioners have made a severe attack on the siesta, tending to apoplexy or nightmare, but the Medical Press declares this idea is founded on a misapprehension of the physiological functions of the stomach and brain. And this is what it says, answering the question: "Is it harmful thus to fall asleep after a meal? By no means. The process is merely a physiological one, and as such when it occurs is quite natural. When digestion is in progress, nature arranges that all the available blood in the body shall be collected in and about the digestive organs. Consequently the blood supply to the brain falls to a low ebb, and thus sleep is easily induced. On the other hand, physiologically it is wrong for brain work to be attempted immediately after a solid meal." Which is a most comfortable doctrine, but one that offers a new development in the attractions of dinner parties or public banquets. How would it be possible for guests, after tossing off the pouffe cafe, to recline with comfort in the straight back chairs of modern fashion? Would these heavy diners be able to restrain the snores with which nature afflicts the children of men in their unconscious moments? If the "forty winks" method is to receive public and immediate postprandial adoption, another order of dining room furniture must prevail. People who are in the habit of dining not wisely, but too well, must insist on the introduction of the classic Roman style of couch or triclinia round the mahogany, and on that extend themselves as gracefully as may be until the digestive organs have done their duty. Beneficent sleep! It would work well even at the dinner dance, for then guests, however light of foot, would awake refreshed, and their general happiness be promoted, because indigestion would be avoided.

RULE HELPS IN NURSING.

The doctors' duty to say. The nurses' duty to do.

In case of mental disturbance watch the bladder.

Keep ether away from fire, it is highly inflammable.

In a sick room always hang the thermometer near the bed.

Always read the label on a bottle before giving medicine.

In all cases of fever rub the feet with vaseline instead of alcohol.

The snuffing of powdered alum will sometimes relieve nose-bleed.

A good old-fashioned method of treating an ordinary cold is as follows:

The stomachs of infants under three or four years old will not digest starch. Remember that the old-fashioned idea

of giving physic for all ailments is a ruinous principle.

In case of fainting, think first to put patient flat on the back, afterward, if necessary, loosen the clothing.

Doctors say that in nine cases out of ten, chorea (St. Vitus' Dance) is caused by lack of nutrition.

Put feet in hot water, grease the chest and back with lard and ginger, and wrap over it a piece of warmed white sheet or roll wadding.

In making a bed tuck the lower sheet at least twelve inches under top of mattress, tuck in the upper sheet twelve inches under the foot of mattress.

For colds in the head try bathing the chest every evening in cold water.

1 teaspoon	— 1 drachm (about)
1 tablespoon	— 1 1/2 ounce
1 wineglass	— 2 ounces
1 teacup	— 4

SERVED HIM RIGHT.

A Young Woman in Chicago Horsewhipped the Horsewhipper.

Here is an incident, related by the Chicago Chronicle, where a young woman taught an unfeeling and brutal expressman a severe and memorable lesson: The insolence of office and the law's delays are not always to be counted on. Occasionally the Nemesis which pursues the evildoer overtakes him in the very act of his iniquity and the protecting arm of the law is clothed in sealskin, bracelets and things which one does not see on the majestic status of Justice, which is loaded down with scales and cumbersome equipment. This is not the theory, it is a condition, and was met full in the face by a city expressman who now knows how his horse feels under his persistent flogging and cutting. The expressman was driving the beast east on Adams street. His wagon was heavily loaded with household goods, including two or three stoves and several trunks containing books. The load was almost too great for the poor, half-starved animal, but this fact argued nothing to the blasphemous driver, who cursed incessantly and belabored the poor brute at every step.

This is what the young woman saw as she crossed the street. Dressed in furs, her cheeks flushing with indignation that such a proceeding should be allowed to go on uninterrupted in a metropolitan city, she watched the scene a few moments and then rushed to the side of the panting brute and commanded the driver to stop. He paid no attention to the woman's importunities and uttered a great oath. When his whip descended again the young woman seized it and pulled it from his grasp. He jumped from the wagon and then a number of men rushed to the young woman's assistance, but their proffered help came too late. The young woman pushed them aside with flashing eyes and flushed cheeks, beat the guilty expressman over the head with the butt end of the whip. Once, twice, three times it fell, and blood spurted from deep cuts. Still she did not desist, and continued her battery of blows until the whipstock broke in her hands. Then she turned, picked up the bundles she had dropped and continued on her way, after patting the poor horse on the head.

CLEVER ANSWERS.

Instances in Which They Won Promotion in Civil and Military Life.

A long list might be given of men who have owed their advancement in life to a clever answer given at the right moment. An account of how two of them managed it may be appropriately given just now. One of Napoleon's veterans, who survived his master many years was wont to recount with great glee how he once picked up the Emperor's cocked hat at a review, when the latter, without noticing that he was a private said carelessly, "Thank you, Captain." "In what regiment, sir?" instantly inquired the quick-witted soldier. Napoleon perceiving his mistake, answered with a smile, "In my guards for I see you know how to be prompt." The newly made officer received his commission next morning.

A somewhat similar anecdote is related of Marshal Suwaroff, who, when receiving a despatch from the hands of a Russian Sergeant who had greatly distinguished himself on the Danube, attempted to confuse the messenger by a series of whimsical questions, but asked him fully equally to the occasion. "How many fish are there in the sea?" asked Suwaroff. "All that are not caught yet," was the answer. "How far is it to the moon?" "Two of your Excellency's forced marches." "What would you do if you saw your men giving way in battle?" "I would tell them that there was plenty of whisky behind the enemy's line." Baffled at all points, the Marshal ended with, "What is the difference between your Colonel and myself?" "My Colonel can not make me a Lieutenant, but your Excellency has only to say the word." "I say it now," answered Suwaroff, "and a right good officer you will be."

FRANCE'S FOREIGN LEGION.

France's Foreign Legion is the last refuge for adventures of all nations. In one company there were serving recently a Roumanian Prince, who was suspected of having murdered his brother; a German Count, who had been a Lieutenant of the Guards and on the Emperor's staff; an Italian Lieutenant of the Guards, and on the Emperor's staff; an Italian Lieutenant Colonel of cavalry, dismissed for cheating at cards; a Russian Nihilist, in the French Siberia; a former Captain in the English Rifle Brigade, and an ex-canon of Notre Dame suspended for immorality. The legion is always used for dangerous service in which the Government does not wish to employ regular troops, as the men have no care for their lives.

In Brown county, Kan., a family named Bryan had a new baby christened McKinley.

WHAT UNCLE SAM IS AT.

ITEMS OF INTEREST ABOUT THE BUSY YANKEE.

Neighborhood Interest in His Doings—Matters of Moment and Mirth Gathered from His Daily Record.

Roasted peanuts are sold by the pound at Sacramento, Cal., the price now being 10 cents.

Nose bleed which, it is said, had continued for twenty-four hours, was stopped at Carthage, Mo., the patient being a Mrs. Flood.

There was a mixture of feeling in the household of Pete Berry of the Colorado Grand Canyon when the cat had a litter of half-breed pole cats.

In a smelt weir in South Bay, off Eastport, Me., a lobster weighing 19 1/2 pounds was caught. It was forty inches long and seventeen inches around. Rubbers were the means of saving a life in Maine, when a West Sullivan boatman who wore them used them to bail out his boat, which had sprung a leak.

There was ground for amusing speculation in the contribution of a Bangor, Me., firm to a fair for the benefit of an hospital. The donation consisted of 2,500 cigarettes.

At Hartsborne, I.T., an Italian who had suit for divorce instituted urged haste upon his attorney, saying that he wanted to marry a Choctaw squaw before the land allotment.

Buried in a pauper's grave near Hartsborne, I.T., was the body of an old man named Johnson, who, it is said, was once Lieutenant-Governor of Florida. He was brought long by drink.

Mrs. Dorothy Parker of Brooklyn, Me., at the age of 84, was sufficiently interested in the affairs of the day to mould candles for the illumination of three houses to celebrate McKinley's victory.

A letter from Havana to the Times dwells upon the fact that the white element now predominates largely in the insurgent ranks. The worst elements have disappeared, and an independent Government, if weak, would at least be in the hands of educated and responsible men.

Carl Holzhauser, a farmer of Rushville, Kan., carried to Atchison a bald eagle which he had captured after a battle with it near Lake Conrary, where he was hunting. He had left his horse, and when he returned to it found the eagle on the animal's back, fighting it. When he beat it off the bird attacked him and tore his clothing and face before he could shoot it.

According to the Superior, Neb., Journal, Bert Serf of the Doane College football team, on leaving Crete for a game at Lawrence, made a comrade good-by, and added in a solemn tone that it might be the last time his friend would see him alive. The friend told of the incident and some of Serf's friends for a joke draped his chair in mourning, and had just hung on the back of it a card reading "Best in Peace." When a despatch came saying that Serf had been killed in the game.

Angered at the attendance of the young women school teachers of the place at the meetings of a dancing club, the School Board of Osage City, Kan., passed a resolution forbidding further indulgence in such gayety, on the ground that the influence upon the pupils would not be good. The town arose and asserted itself. The Knights of Pythias stood up for the teachers, and a business men's meeting was held, at which a resolution was passed that the members of the School Board be instructed to refrain from the use of tobacco, as good results to the pupils could not be accomplished while such a practice was indulged in.

A SAD ACCIDENT.

Western Judge—You are charged, sir, with being the leader of a party which hunted down and lynched a horse thief. The days have gone by when citizens of this great commonwealth can thus take the law into their own hands, hence your arrest. What have you to say?

Prominent Citizen—I ain't guilty judge. I'll tell you how it was. We caught the feller and tied his hands and feet. Nothing wrong about that, was there, judge?

No, that was no doubt necessary. Wal, judge, there was a storm comin' up, and we couldn't spare him an umbrella very well, so we stood him under a tree. That was all right, wasn't it?

Certainly. Wal, the clouds kept gatherin' an' the wind was purty high, and we didn't want him blown away, so we tied a rope around his neck, and fastened the other end to the limb above—not tight, judge, jest so as to hold him fast, and we left him standin' solid on his feet. Nothing wrong about that, was there?

Nothing at all. Then I kin be excused, can't I?

But the man was found suspended from that tree, and stone dead the next morning. None of us had anything to do with that judge. You see we left him standin' there in good health and spirits, fer we give him all he could drink when we said 'good-by'; but you see, during the night the rain came up an' I s'pose the rope got purty wet and shrank a couple o' feet. That's how the sad accident happened, judge.

WAGES OF EUROPEAN POLICEMEN.

London police sergeants or roundsmen are paid from \$8.50 to \$12 a week and constables or patrolmen from \$6 to \$8. In Dublin the wages are half a dollar less. In Glasgow the highest pay for a constable is \$6.75, for a sergeant \$8, an inspector gets \$700 a year, and a superintendent from \$1,200 to \$1,500. The St. Petersburg chief of police draws \$2,500 a year, a sergeant from \$300 to \$400, and a patrolman from \$150 to \$220 a year. Paris pays \$5.25 to \$6.50 a year at Vienna, from \$7 to roundsmen. Patrolmen get from \$225 to \$260 a year at Vienna, from \$230 to \$300 at Amsterdam, from \$200 to \$320 at Brussels, where detectives may rise to \$480. The Turkish policemen get \$3 a week and the native policemen of Calcutta from \$4 to \$4.50 a month.