

THE FARM.

THE MANAGEMENT OF FOALS.

As a general rule a farmer's foal gets a very well in a grass field with the dam during its first summer, especially if the mare be naturally a good suckler and the grass be not deficient in quantity or below the average in quality. But with the fall of the leaf all these advantageous circumstances are changed, and, in too many instances, a summer of brightness and happiness is succeeded by a winter of sadness and sorrow. The thriving foal which frolicked with the dam during the first summer is now weaned and requires a variety of suitable foods and a considerable amount of attention and watchfulness. It is not the great quantity of food that a weaned foal requires, but management is highly necessary if the foal is to pay for raising; and too well knowing that such attention is not universally given, to the great loss of the less painstaking breeders, is sufficient ground for venturing to mention the subject. If a foal be well done during its first winter, the expense is very little indeed until he becomes a four-year-old; but, if the foal be neglected and consequently half-starved during the first and most important winter, he will be more expensive to keep in succeeding winters, and will never grow to so good a horse; or, even in some cases he will be eventually as good, the time and expense will have been far greater, and will have absorbed all the profit of breeding. The course of events is quite plain and easy to follow. Semi-starvation or neglect of any young animal will seriously weaken the digestive organs, and then the food cannot be assimilated; hence a foal fed niggardly during the first winter will require much nursing and care, with consequent expense, during the second and succeeding winters; but a foal liberally and even lavishly fed during the first and most trying winter will live at half-price on the costless refuse of the farm during the three succeeding winters which bring him to four-year-old maturity. A foal requires bran, oats, hay roots and water, with dry clean straw for bedding, and he wants one or more companion foals, or he will be dull and miserable. A grass run during three hours in the brightest part of a short winter day will do no harm, but splendid young horses can be produced without it. The earlier in the autumn that this liberal treatment is commenced, the less will be the foal's winter requirements, and the less the total expense in raising the foal to four years old, and the more valuable will be the full-grown colt; therefore the great pecuniary advantage to the breeders who pursue the policy I herein advocate, I speak from personal experience, having bred many horses, and having put as many as twenty-five mares to the stud in one season. Under-feeding or neglect the foal and you ruin both horse and pocket. Be liberal to the foal, and when he is a yearling and a two-year-old he will be strong enough to look after himself, and live cheaply and well amongst the rough-cattle of the farm.

—Cor. London Live Stock Journal.

WARM HOUSES.

A warm house for laying stock is an absolute necessity. We do not mean one artificially heated, although some breeders of the large comb varieties are obliged to use artificial heat to protect the combs from freezing.

There are a great variety of houses used by the best breeders and hardly any two are alike. Yet they are all constructed with the same idea, to withstand cold winter weather. It is a somewhat difficult matter to construct a wooden building so that it can be kept frost proof. Frame dwellings, be it remembered, are kept warm by artificial heat and would not be habitable without it. A hen house should be constructed that water will not freeze in it during the coldest weather. If such a temperature can be maintained, there is no doubt that plenty of eggs all winter will be the result. A warm house is more important than feed, in fact, all the feed in the world will not induce hens to lay if the house is cold.

The first thing to consider is location. Select a site which is well protected, especially on the north and west sides. If fortunate enough to find a side hill, then the conditions are most favorable; otherwise barns or buildings can be utilized for protection. A grove of trees will often answer as a strong wind-break. As the sun rises later in winter and further towards the south, houses should face generally south, with a slight inclination to southeast.

Next they should be built low, as low as possible. Some of the best are sunk two or three feet in the ground, thus exposing as little surface above ground as possible. A high-built house is always cold and drafty.

In the construction of the dead-air space is recognized as the most important consideration. This can be obtained by using 2 by 4 scantling on all four sides. On the outside nail sheathing boards, then builders' paper (the double quality is best) on these, and then novelty siding or clapboards. For the interior of the house lath and plaster is the cheapest and best finish. This gives a dead-air space of four inches, which will be found quite sufficient.

The roof is more important than the sides. Many houses, well built otherwise, have proved themselves useless because of badly constructed roofs. All roofs should be lathed and plastered, or celled over inside, thus maintaining the principle of dead air space. Shingles we consider cold and leaky; besides, the pitch necessary to insure against leaks compels one to build too high, and thus create an overhead draft,

which is most injurious to the stock. Patent paper or other compositions are the best materials for roofs at the present time, but it must be remembered that the finishing inside or board floor is the warmer is a question. We are inclined to natural earth, although boards may be drier.

The windows should not be large—too much glass is a mistake. After years of experiments we consider that windows are more important as means of light than for attracting to much sun heat. Fowls require light and cheerful quarters. They keep in better health thus, and are much happier, which means plenty of eggs.

A house thus constructed will be warm and comfortable; it cannot be made any warmer unless heated. We have said nothing about ventilators because we do not believe in them. Windows open on clear, sunny days are the best ventilators and about the only kind that will not injure the stock confined. We have never seen any design which we consider safe for ventilating a hen house, they all having the fault of circulating drafts.

EASY WAY TO STORE ICE.

A great many farmers would like to have ice to use in the summer if it were not so much of a job to put it up. When ice is ready to harvest the days are short and cold and the roads generally bad; besides, the work is disagreeable as well as hard and dangerous. Now if you have plenty of good well water handy, pump a tankful of it and when it begins to freeze take a pailful of it and wet the sides and bottom of your ice house. If the day is cold and the water at the freezing point, a coating of ice will be formed and by repeating the process your ice-house will soon become a water-tight tank into which you can pour a barrel or two of water at night when quitting work and find it solid ice in the morning.

The way to build on fast is to put on only as much water as will freeze soon—a pailful or two at a time.

If you have never tried this plan you will be surprised to see how much ice one man can store in a day. It will be much more than he could cut and haul under the most favorable conditions. Besides he will have the satisfaction of knowing that the ice is as pure as the water he is using; while if he got his ice out of some pond or river it would be full of impurities.

If you have no ice house take a hay knife and cut out a room on the north side of a straw stack, mix water and snow, forming a slush; with which plaster the sides and bottom of this room, then wet sides and bottom with ice water and fill as above. If this is well covered with old hay or chaff it will keep nearly all summer.

HORSELESS CABS.

Something About the Latest Fad of the Parisians.

The first horseless cab has been turned loose in Paris, and if it leaves something to be desired in the way of beauty it is none the less interesting says La Nature, the Paris scientific paper, in that it marks the beginning of a new epoch in street locomotion of which it is impossible to foresee the end.

So far from alarming the old-fashioned cab drivers, the new horseless cab built by a former cab driver with the financial assistance of a gentleman in Paris, and the work on it was done by workmen of the carriage-makers' organization.

The new automobile is a petroleum machine and has a five-horse-power pulling strength. A great advantage of the horseless over the old-fashioned cab is that they will take up less room, and to that extent relieve the congestion of street traffic. The new Paris vehicle is only about ten feet, while a cab and horse occupy in the neighborhood of fifteen feet.

One of the minor objections that has been raised to the motor carriage, and it has been especially brought forward in the case of this first Parisian horseless cab, is that it is so essentially ugly and awkward-looking. The radical cause of this lack of any graceful suggestion in any of the automatic vehicles that up to the present time have been brought out seems to lie in a misconception as to one of the exigencies of construction. Builders have, without an exception, apparently set out with the fixed idea that a horseless carriage must be literally a horseless carriage—that it must be in outward effect a carriage precisely up to the preconceived conventional idea of what a carriage should look like, and that only the horse should be lacking. It was reasoning precisely analogous to this which resulted in the absurd railroad passenger cars which are so slowly and with such obstinate reluctance going way to the more rational and logical idea concerning railroad vehicle construction, which from the first have prevailed in this country. The idea seemed to be that stage coaches having been the style of vehicle heretofore used to travel in, every passenger carrying device that went on wheels must be some

SORT OF A STAGE COACH.

So the horrible little stage coach compartments were built and even painted to resemble stage coaches. The fact that the conditions were entirely changed made no difference. The thing to travel in, whether it went on rails or on the highway, was and must ever be a stage coach.

It is the same way with the horseless carriage. It would seem easily possible to make a graceful vehicle out of one that furnished its own motive power, and the obvious first inference would be that such a vehicle should be entirely different in many details of shape from one that was drawn by horses.

But the thing is too new yet to suppose that the old rail will be very soon abandoned.

If this cab is a popular success the tourist in Paris will see a strange spectacle when the historic Bois du Boulogne is thronged with silent, horseless carriages and cabs containing the haute monde of the French capital.

THE HOME.

ECONOMY OF TIME.

It really seems that the word economy would be worn to shreds, for no subject is more frequently discussed, yet nothing is of more interest to the earnest housekeeper. Economy may be practiced in every branch of home-keeping, it seems, yet but few of the weary mothers doing all their own work think of applying it to time. They have come into the habit of forever working—washing, scrubbing, cooking—so that before they know it they are old and gray and wrinkled long before their time. Necessary and unnecessary work alike demands their attention, and sometimes they keep at it long into the night—slaves to work. There is such a thing as economy of time, and it may to some degree be accomplished by systematic planning. Of course, life would become a miserable treadmill if everything had to go just as clockwork, with every minute exacting relentlessly the duty appointed. Ill health, too would sometimes not permit of certain work on appointed days, yet some management of time is necessary if one would accomplish much in these days. It is not always the big things which take the most time, but little trivial matters which could by some thought be so adjusted as to spare many weary steps and minutes. No housekeeper knows how much easier her work seems and how much time is really saved for profitable pleasure unless some general plan is adopted and followed.

Whatever will spare a few steps, whatever will lighten the labor of housework, cannot be dispensed with if possible. Think how many steps could be saved in a day if things were only arranged conveniently, especially in the kitchen. It is no easy task to move the heavy furniture in some kitchens. Neat, light utensils and furniture are no more expensive than the heavy ones and are just as strong. When cooking a meal, a woman will walk back and forth from pantry to stove a half dozen times to get salt or spices for what she is preparing. How much better would it not be to have her spice box on a small shelf near the stove or hung on a nail within easy reach. Everyone admires an immaculate floor, yet none but the one who has scrubbed it realizes what it costs—the weariness, the hard work and the aching knees. A couple of gallons of dark paint, or some stain, or enough oil cloth to cover the floor would in the long run be far the cheapest.

Has anyone ever given a thought to how much could be accomplished in an hour before breakfast? While the breakfast is cooking one will be able to prepare the vegetables for dinner and set the parlor and sitting room in order; that is if they do not require extra sweeping. Of course, the meals for the day had been planned the day before and as much as could be prepared for breakfast had been done the previous evening. The children should have been taught to open their bedroom windows and throw back the bed clothes before leaving their rooms in order that during breakfast the beds may air, and may be made up directly after the dishes are washed. Then one has the entire morning to devote undisturbed to sewing or other work and may look forward to an hour's nap after lunch. It is true that where there are small children to dress this plan may not work so smoothly; but children should be taught to help, and the older ones would soon learn to dress the small brothers and sisters if the mother would take the time to explain to them.

In housework one must arrange to do certain duties on appointed days, and do it then if possible. The heavy work, like washing and ironing, if done the first of the week, does not create more time, but it seems that much more can be accomplished in the remainder of the week when uninterrupted. Another saving of time, if one does not keep a hot fire constantly, is to prepare in the morning, while there is a hot fire, whatever of fruits, desserts or vegetables which are to be served cold or which may be cooked then as well as later, instead of building an extra fire or commencing preparations an hour earlier than necessary at meal-time. It takes some little planning and thinking on the part of the housekeeper, but how much pleasanter it is to know that one will have so much time to devote to whatever one pleases.

It is the systematic housekeeper who has time to read, to play with her children and to do pretty fancy-work, not the one who sleeps till the last minute in the morning, gets breakfast in a rush and then sits down to read a fascinating novel before the dishes are washed. Such a woman is always grumbling about the amount of work she has to do and making it unpleasant both for her husband and children.

There is yet another kind of housekeeper who would have more time if she was not eternally "picking up and setting to rights." What matter it if Marion left the sofa pillows a little out of place, or if the table is strewn with the latest magazines where John left them? What matters it if the big easy chair is pulled up to the blazing fireplace, where it looks so inviting? Surely prudence is not artistic, and there is a vast difference between disorder and such arrangement which is most comfortable. A pleasant home is made by the people in it and that which they surround themselves. Pretty ornaments and books make the home attractive, even if they do make a little more work. But, best of all, is the smiling faces of its inmates, and especially of the mother, and surely she who best arranges her work and time will be able to make "no place on earth like home" to her family.

RECIPES.

Chillblains.—Soak the hands and feet twice or thrice a week in hot water which has common salt dissolved in it in the proportion of half a pint measure of salt to a gallon and a half of water. This is not only a cure, but a preventive. Apply this ointment spread on a soft rag at night. Cut up

2 white turnips and mash them with 3 large spoonfuls of good lard. If possible, pound the two together thoroughly in a marble mortar.

To Sweeten Strong Butter.—Melt the butter and skim it; then put into it a piece of toast (free from any burn). In a few moments the butter will lose its offensive taste and smell, which will have been absorbed by the toast.

Vinegar Pies.—Three cupfuls of water, 5 tablespoonfuls of vinegar, 1 cupful of sugar, yolks of 5 eggs, 3 tablespoonfuls of flour. Put water, vinegar and sugar on the stew; let come to a boil. Moisten the flour with a little water; keep yolks of eggs and flour together. Pour into the water on the stew; stir until thick. Flavor with lemon. This is as good as a lemon pie.

USES OF AMMONIA.

Grease spots may be taken out with weak ammonia in water, and if very carefully applied will remove spots from paintings and chromos. Lay soft white paper over and iron with a moderately hot iron.

By rubbing nickel and silver ornaments with a woolen cloth, saturated with spirits of ammonia, they may be kept very bright with but little trouble.

Door plates should be cleaned by rubbing with a cloth dipped in ammonia and water.

To brighten carpets wipe them after sweeping with warm water, into which has been poured a few drops of ammonia.

Old brass may be made to look like new by pouring strong ammonia over it, then scrubbing with a brush; rinse in clean water, and be careful not to touch your hands with the ammonia.

Yellow oil stains left by the sewing machine may be removed by rubbing the spot with a cloth wet with ammonia before washing with soap.

Spirits of ammonia will often remove severe headache, but should be carefully used, as the constant use of salts, ammonia and other strong scents injures and inflames the nose.

To clean windows put one or two tablespoonfuls of ammonia into a bucket of water. After washing thoroughly polish with an old newspaper, and your windows will be beautifully bright.

One teaspoonful of ammonia in a cupful of water will clean gold or silver jewelry. A few drops on the under side of a diamond will clean it immediately, making it very brilliant.

Flannel and blankets should be soaked in a pail of water, containing one tablespoonful of ammonia and a little clean suds; rub as little as possible, and they will be white and clean, and will not shrink.

To wash your brushes and combs put one tablespoonful of ammonia in one quart of water, rinse, shake and dry in the sun.

Equal parts of ammonia and turpentine will take the paint out of clothing, even if it has become hard and dry. Wet the spot as often as necessary, and wash out in soap suds.

A tablespoonful of ammonia in a gallon of warm water will often restore colors in carpets, and will also remove whitewash from carpets.

WITH POOR BILL SCANLAN

PATHETIC SCENE IN THE BLOOMINGDALE ASYLUM.

How the Former Great Actor Looks and Lives—The Comedian's Sad Condition is Pitiful—Does Not Know Any One, Not Even His Wife.

The morning sun had peeped through the barred windows of a narrow, cell-like room in Ward 7, of the Bloomingdale Asylum for the Insane, near New York, illuminating the bare walls, and lighting up the features of a dying man.

No one could have recognized in those expressionless lineaments the once bright face of the popular Irish comedian, William J. Scanlan, and who once delighted audiences all over the country. The eyes were closed, the cheeks were puffed and of a sallow hue, and the mouth, that in days gone used to break into fascinating smiles, had a driveling aspect, heightened by the idiotic droop of the chin.

Scanlan has been bedridden off and on, for nearly eighteen months, and is now fast approaching his end. His mind is a blank. One day in his life is but a repetition of another. They are all devoid of incident. The room he occupies is furnished with a single bedstead, a strip of light-colored carpet and a chair.

The great clock in the steeple of the asylum chapel chimes 6. It is the signal for a general awakening in the ward. The attendants leave their rooms and busy themselves in cleaning the halls, assisting the imbecile patients to dress, shaking the mats and making the beds.

Breakfast next. This meal is always served in Bloomingdale at 7.30 o'clock. Those patients who are able to walk about the wards repair to the dining room and eat the meal there. The sick patients are served in their rooms.

BEGINS WITH BREAKFAST.

An attendant enters Scanlan's room with a tray, and, taking a seat at the bedside, props the patient up with pillows and feeds him with a spoon. The actor's breakfast usually consists of oatmeal porridge, soft-boiled eggs, beef steak and two or three glasses of fresh milk.

Strange to say, Scanlan has an amazing appetite. He seems to have a keen relish for his food, and a peculiar light comes into his eyes while eating. The quantity of food it is thought best to give him is regulated by the attendant in charge of the ward.

Breakfast over, the actor lies back in bed and falls into a profound sleep. The ward re-echoes with the gabble and

chatter of the insane. Peals of idiotic laughter, outbursts of insane declamation, wild cries and uncouth sounds are heard. At 11 o'clock the asylum barber enters the ward to trim the hair and beards of the bedridden patients. He enters Scanlan's room with an attendant. The latter arouses the actor from his stupor, props him up in bed, adjusts a towel round his neck, and then sits by while the barber performs the task of shaving him.

BARBER THEN DINNER.

While the barber is at work the patient again opens his eyes and regards him with a vacant stare, all unconscious of what is going on.

When the barber has gone the attendant washes the patient's face and hands, brushes his close cut hair and arranges him in a dressing gown. Then he leaves him to go to sleep again.

At 1 o'clock comes dinner. Scanlan eats a rich broth, some finely chopped meat, generally beef or mutton; vegetables that do not require mastication, pudding and milk. He again eats ravenously and soon after drops out into a stupor.

At 3 o'clock carriages enter the grounds and wind along the gravelled roadway toward the entrance to the male division. They contain friends and relatives of the patients, for this is Wednesday, the day set apart as the visiting day in this department, and the afternoon trains from New York always bring a large number of visitors.

SCANLAN'S WIFE VISITS HIM.

From one of the carriages a handsome woman, richly dressed, alights and mounts the steps. She smiles cordially to the attendants in the office. She is Scanlan's devoted wife, and on every visiting day, rain or shine, since her husband has been in Bloomingdale she has made him a visit. She never comes to the asylum without bringing him some little gift or remembrance. Sometimes it is a basket of fruit, sometimes a bunch of sweet flowers. She is regarded by the attendants with the utmost respect and veneration.

One of the attendants leads her through the office to a separate pavilion in the rear of the main building. It is in this pavilion that Ward 7 is situated. Entering her husband's room she seats herself at his bedside. She takes his hand in hers and bends over him and speaks to him fondly. He seems to recognize her voice, for his eyes open and he turns toward her with a look that has in it a faint gleam of intelligence. In many mute ways he manifests his pleasure but he does not speak, for Scanlan long ago lost his power of speech.

HIS CURIOUS MALADY.

Half past 4. The time has arrived for the visitors to leave. Mrs. Scanlan arises, bends over her husband and kisses his lips fervently. Then, with tears streaming down her cheeks, she leaves the room. Scanlan's eyes close again, and he falls back into his usual condition of stupor.

At 6 o'clock supper. Scanlan's meal consists of milk, toast, preserved fruits, and several glasses of milk. In fact, the actor consumes five or six quarts of fresh milk every day. Although the food he takes does not add to his physical strength, it has made him excessively fat.

He now sleeps until 8. Then two attendants enter, lift him from the bed, place him in an invalid's chair and wheel him to the bath room, where he has a warm bath and massage. This is to produce a quieting effect upon his nervous system. From the bath room he is taken back to his own apartment and placed in bed for the night.

This is a typical day of the last days of Billy Scanlan, the actor, whose merry jibes, clever dancing and humorous songs once captivated all the country. His is a remarkable case. Most sufferers from paresis die quickly after passing into its last stage. With the majority of cases it is the incipient and violent stages of the disease which have the longest duration; but with Billy Scanlan the matter has taken a different course.

JEWEL CASE AND PIN TRAY.

A jewel case and pin tray in combination is made by forming a little cup from six sections of cardboard, slightly sloped toward one end.

These are covered on both sides with silk and sewn together with even slanting stitches. The top of the cup is edged with buttonhole stitches of irregular lengths, and the handle is a piece of wire, covered with silk, after the manner of the "ring crochet" work; the wire being inserted in the cardboard at each end.

The saucer consists of twelve sections of cardboard, similarly shaped and covered, joined to a small central round, all the seams being outlined with the even slanting stitch.

The cup is fastened in the centre of the saucer with mullage or any a few strong stitches, and a round of chamois skin serves to hide the joining and to make a snug bed for the rings my lady drops off her fingers each night.

The saucer conveniently holds pins of all kinds.

WASHING CHAMOIS.

In washing anything made of chamois skins use warm water with a little ammonia in it. Wash by rubbing between the fingers, but do not wring the chamois. Press it between the palms of the hands to take out the water, and hang before the fire or in the hot sun to dry quickly, rubbing and pulling the article into proper shape every few moments to prevent the skins drying hard and stiff.

THE OPINION OF ONE WHO KNOWS.

Wife—Robbie is bound to get married.

Husband—Yes, and he'll be bound an infernal sight tighter after he is married.

THE WAY OF IT.

Does your poetry pay? Well, it just keeps the wolf from the door. I suppose you read it to him.

With Christmas o'er, Ye man his brain must rake. And cut down the cost of life, So that he may buy his wife A wheel of this year's make.