On the Farm.

WHY THEY FAIL.

A lot of people rush into the poultry business without any capital or experience, and the consequence is—failure. They read of the success of others and imagine they can do as well without considering for one moment that they are not equipped for the venture. So many people start out on a scale that is nothing short of ridiculous. We have known men to quit jobs and start in the poultry business with hardly enough money on hand to pay for one month's provisions, expecting to make a living out of the business from the start. To the amateur poultryman we have this to say: Do not quit your job and expect to make a living with poultry the first year; for if you do, you are certain at the end of the year to be among those who swear that there is nothing in keeping chickens.

The best way to start in the poultry business on a large scale is to start with only a few, learn all you can about chickens, and then try to breed all the good birds you can take care of without crowding, the first year. If, at the end of the year, you are satisfied to go ahead and have enough money on hand to get everything ready for a larger breeding flock, as well as to carry you through the year for the necessaries of life, then you might quit your job and start in; but remember, that this first year is what counts. You learn whether you have a taste for the business and get a pretty good idea of raising poultry. The second year you should be able to produce a flock large enough to enable you to go into it more heavily, and with ordinary success you should make a good living off five hundred hens.

We would strongly advise, when starting to be governed by the following rules: First, start with the best to be had; second, decide what you desire to breed for—eggs or meat; third, get one variety and stay with it. If you breed only one variety you can soon, by advertising a little and exhibiting your birds, make a reputation on them, and sell a good lot at good prices, while the rest can go to market. Do not start with the idea that you can sell all you breed at fancy prices, for you will not be able to do so for some time. To earn a reputation for your fowls, you must advertise for at least one year before you can expect much return. The poultryman who succeeds in selling all his fowls at good prices, is the man who has spent many years in the poultry business, and many dollars in advertising.

A GOOD TEST FOR BORDEAUX.

Bordeaux mixture is now so generally used in gardening and fruit growing that its proper preparation becomes all important. The surer and simpler ferrocyanide of potassium test is largely superseding that of the knife blase. Ferrocyanide of potassium comes as a solid. According to a report of the Cornell station, one ounce of ferrocyanide of potassium dissolved in one ounce of water will be sufficient for testing many barrels of bordeaux mixture. In making bordeaux it is usual to pour the diluted milk of lime into the diluted copper sulphate solution. In order to ascertain when enough lime has been used, after pouring a small amount of it into the sulphate solution add a drop of the ferrocyanide solution. If a brick red color appears where the drop strikes, more lime is needed. Continue adding the milk of lime until no reddish color will be produced when the ferrocyanide is added. A little surplus lime will do no harm. Ferrocyanide of potassium is a poison and should be kept out of the reach of children and careless persons.

BARLEY, OATS AND PEAS.

Next to hay and corn, no crop is prized so highly by the dairyman as the grain above mentioned, either alone or in combination with each other. These crops have three distinct uses. First, as a green soiling crop; second, when cut and cured as hay, and third, when allowed to ripen, cut and threshed, and the resulting grain fed; while the straw is valuable for bedding or to a small extent for feeding purposes. They are the earliest crops to sow in the spring, and follow rye and wheat in succession for soiling. For this purpose they are only surpassed by clover. They are greatly relished by stock of all kinds and have a comparatively high feeding value.

GIVE HOGS PLENTY OF SALT.

Hogs should have free access to salt. When on pasture, put in some dry place under a shed where the hogs can get at it whenever wanted. Some recommend spading the salt into the soil, especially if it is clay, compelling the hogs to root for it.

FARM FURROWS.

A rusty machine is bad; a rusty farmer is worse.

Keep animals well-fed, dry and clean, and throw medicine away.

Don't scrimp food for man or beast. Better three thrifty calves than four starveling runts.

To read about the right method is good, to see it done is better, but to try and do it is best of all.

Farmer Slow's hired man has been sawing wood and hauling manure all the first part of the season. He hopes to begin the regular spring work soon.

Don't be content to tell your boys that farming is the noblest of the professions, and the one vocation a man should follow. Make them see that there is something for them in it and they'll stay with you.

There are 242 German Baptist churches in the United States, with 22,000 members.

DRESS AND CHARACTER.

AN ESSAYIST DEPLORES FASHION'S LIMITED SCOPE FOR ORIGINALITY.

Though Faultlessly Attired a Parvenu Will Display Her Vulgarity—Justifiable Economy in Women of Slender Purses—Toilets That Betray a Desire to Create a Sensation.

The sameness of fashion and the limited scope it yields for the display of individuality and originality and taste and character have lately been deplored by a well-known essayist; and, no doubt, to the superficial observer, who is incapable of penetrating beneath the outward uniformity by means of a thousand insignificant, yet most significant, details and avowals, this aspect of fashions and modes may seem lamentable. But for ourselves, we believe that, if all women to-morrow were dressed in the same fashion, they would manifest individual and typical qualities and peculiarities, which are as much betrayals and avowals as language—more, indeed, for if language often conceals our true sentiments, our dress scarcely ever does. By this we must not be thought to overlook the influence that is played by the dressmaker and tailor, and that necessitates a modification and guarded application of our philosophy. A parvenu millionaire's wife goes to M. Worth, to be dressed, and, implicitly following the great artist's advice, wears a dress that is perfection itself, a dress that suppresses this bad point and accentuates that advantageous one, and, in itself is a work of art. Yet the wearer of this faultless robe will betray her native taste or want of it. She will wear a dress suitable for a reception of Ambassadors at some ordinary function when an immodest display of magnificance is not only out of place, but embarrasses the hostess, and almost conveys a rebuke to this lady and her other guests. The host of the entertainment, glancing at the dazzling collection of diamonds that hang about the neck, shoulders and waist of the millionairess, will say to himself, in an annoyed undertone, "the woman ought to be taught that it isn't necessary to carry all her diamonds about with her to an evening party," and the general feeling of ridicule and contempt will scarcely promote urbanity and geniality. Women of this kind are nearly always kind-hearted and generous and vulgar, and the most beautiful costume in the world will not prevent this latter quality betraying itself. Even more subtle, yet none the less recognizable, is the revelation of meanness—a quality much more to be distrusted and detested than vulgarity.

CONSPICUOUS IN DRESS.

Of course, it need hardly be said that the justifiable economy of the poor woman, which compels her to consider every shilling, is quite a different affair from the meanness of the rich one. There is a class of women, often well born and well educated, and without the justification for vulgarity in springing from humble origin, whose sole object in dress is to produce an effect by something unusual, startling, bizarre. They are not to be confused with the coquette, whose intention is to provoke and please the other sex, and whose dress, full of mystery and seductiveness, and a caprice that is charming and that attracts at first, finally repels by a certain want of simplicity, which is, however, in keeping with the wearer the robe. The women whose toilets betray a desire to create a sensation are those, as a rule, to whom nature has not been favorable, and who seek to obtain an attention which otherwise would be denied them. They are, however, often women of fortune, and this characteristic will invest the least intelligent and attractive with a charm and value in the eyes of the average man, Whatever the fashion, however quiet and decorous and unobjectionable, they will contrive to make themselves conspicuous by appearing at an evening, party with some strange fur about their neck, or in a public park in white satin turban or white velvet jacket heavily trimmed with white fur. This kind of costume causes passers-by to look earnestly at such women, and even turn round and make uncomplimentary remarks. No matter, the object has been attained; attention has been arrested, and the wearer of the white satin turban may have the good luck to appear in the fashion journals. Scarcely less disagreeable than this latter class are the women whose toilets reveal their desire to create an impression of girlhood, with which happy period they had acquaintance perhaps some thirty years ago. Now, it is true—incredible as it may seem—that there are women of 40 who have the slimness, the unformed figure, the indescribable sort of awkward, even charming, youthfulness of young girls, and women of this type, even if they have a few gray hairs amidst their black or blonde tresses, can wear anything in the way of shapely or unshapely garments without making themselves ridiculous. But the thick, stout-set, matronly person, who has never learned to know herself, and who insists upon wearing the infantile style of bodice called "bebe," betrays a condition of mind which may be in precise consonance with her style of dress, but which is hardly a matter of congratulation.

PHILOSOPHY OF DRESS.

In fine, a book rather than a chapter could be written on this philosophy of dress, for we have said nothing of the woman whose dress betrays her the born actress, or of the type whose costume is rather an uniform than a feminine dress, irresistibly calling up to the imagination the feeling of a mistake in sex, or of that most dangerous class of all, the women whose dress, tailormade or flowing, or what not, defines every line and curve of her figure, revealing in the most suggestive fashion what a pretense is made of concealing. Even the neat shabby work-a-day dress of the governess, the facsimile of a thousand other dresses turned out by similar establishments, is pregnant with avowals of her courage, her self-respect, or the reverse. Walk behind two women dressed in tailor-made skirts of precisely the same material and cut and cost, watch the way they manage their skirts, observe the neatness of their shoes and stockings, and, above all the freshness and delicacy and simplicity of their petticoats, and if, after this observation, you can form no idea of their characters, or, at least, their tastes, avow yourself of no great acuteness. Only observe with caution and on fundamental principles. Because a colored silk petticoat is regarded at the moment as the perfection of fashion, and an immense display of it as the perfection of manners, do not be misled into thinking that its wearer shows better taste than her companion wearing that modest, plain, spotless white petticoat, adorned with the simplest of embroidery, and whose edge is now and again revealed beneath the hem of her dress. And lastly, there is perfection in dress, as in every other kind of decoration, the perfection which is due, not to the genius of the tailor or dressmaker, but to exquisite taste, to a harmony between the soul and dress of which it is the symbol, and, in addition, it must be conceded, of a well-supplied purse. For true elegance in dress—all those perfect accessories

Date of General Election.

When is it to be? This question is disturbing the souls of politicians. In view of the material alteration in the commercial policy of the country which would be involved in a change of government it is a matter which concernment it is a matter which concerns the general public. Meanwhile the aching corns of the populace cry for a remedy and the government give no heed to the demand. Look here! don't suffer this neglect to delay the use of means open to all and which removes the most painful and obstinate corns in two days. Painless, sure acting corn cure, Putnam's Painless Corn Extractor.

MAKES MAN AND BEAST MAD.

French Photographer Says Red Excites Human Beings as Well as Animals.

Why does the bull so strongly object to a red rag? While the professional physiologists do not, as yet, appear to have found any satisfactory explanation of the fact, a French manufacturer of photographic materials professes to have discovered that bulls are by no means the only members of the animal kingdom, who are excited by anything red. A large number of hands are employed in the manufactory, both male and female, and most of the work has hitherto been performed in rooms to which all the light that was admitted came through panes of red glass. Hardly a day passed without some terrific disturbance taking place among the work people. Now it was a duel almost to the death between two of the men, now between two of the women; sometimes the melee was general. "Workshop regulations" were absolutely ignored and no amount of fines or other punishments seemed to have any permanent deterrent effect. This state of affairs was assumed until recently, to be inseparable from work carried on in uncomfortable conditions. At length it occurred to some bright spirit that the red panes of glass might be at fault and it was decided to try what the effect of green panes would be. The effect was instantaneous. From that day a sudden peace fell upon the whole workshop that had never been known before. Bickering and fighting ended as if by enchantment, and voice of man or woman was never heard raised above a whisper.

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Criminals sentenced to death in Utah have a choice between hanging and shooting.

DISCOVERED AT LAST.

A wholesome, nourishing preparation which takes the place of tea and coffee cures indigestion, and all complaints caused by tea and coffee which are poisonous. "Rocko Health Drink" is absolutely pure and is used at your meals instead of coffee. A 10c. package will make 75 cups. Rokco also makes a delicious summer iced drink. For sale by grocers. Ask for it.

A SPINNING FISH.

A shellfish of the Mediterranean has the power of spinning a viscid silk, which in Sicily is made into a very handsome fabric. The silk is spun by the shellfish for the purpose of attaching itself to the rocks. This material is gathered at low tide, washed in soap and water, dried, straightened and carded.

2,000,000 MILES OF WIRES.

There were at the end of 1898 2,029,893 miles of telegraph and telephone lines in use in the world. Of these 167,800 miles are electrical connections with submarine cables, trans-Atlantic, trans-Pacific, etc.; 382,417 miles of lines were for telephones.

For Over Fifty Years
MRS. WINSLOW'S SOOTHING SYRUP has been used by mothers for their children teething. It soothes the child, softens the gums, allays all pain, cures wind colic, and is the best remedy for diarrhœa. 25c. a bottle. Sold by all druggists throughout the world. Be sure and ask for "Mrs. Winslow's Soothing Syrup."

On the docket of the Criminal Court of Atlanta are the names of twenty-seven uncaught murderers.

LUBY'S Gives new life to the Hair. It makes it grow and restores the color. Sold by all druggists, 50c. a bottle.

Rev. Dr. Theodore L. Cuyler, Brooklyn, boasts that he is of Welsh ancestry.

O'KEEFE'S LIQUID EXT. OF MALT Invigorates and Strengthens. W. LLOYD WOOD, Toronto, GENERAL AGENT.

It is announced that bar iron has gone up about 58 per cent., steel a little more, wire nails 68 per cent. and tinplate 40 per cent.

Hotel Carslake, European Plan. Rooms from $1 a day up. Opp. G.T.R. Station, Montreal. Geo. Carslake & Co., Prop's.

The total value of farm animals in the United States is estimated at $1,997,010,407, an increase of $108,355,482 during the year.

La Toscana, 10c. RELIANCE CIGAR FACTORY, Montreal.

Michigan expects to have the largest park in the country. The tract involved covers 738,560 acres, and is located in six counties.

"Pharaoh 10c." Payne, of Granby, Que. Cigar Manufacturer.

The Agricultural Department of Kansas estimates that the wheat yield of that State will be only one-quarter of a full crop.

W. P. C. 982

$5 Tires
Double Tubes, give good service—Send in early—won't last long.
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—C. & J. Detachable,
—Morgan & Wright,
—Bicycle Sundries, Saddles, Tubes, &c.
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Garment Cutters! who wish to improve and have up-to-date methods, write us. C. W. BUNT & CO., Toronto.

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THE IVEY PATENT EXTENSION SHOE CO.,
Are anxious to secure the address of every lame man and woman in Canada whose lameness consists in one limb being shorter than the other, and are offering good paying employment to every lame person who will take the trouble to write for circulars and cards to act as agents. Get one of the Extensions for yourself and you will, after wearing it a week, have no trouble to convince others of its value.
This Extension is by far the best of its nature ever placed on the market, and enables the wearer to walk upright, to walk with ease and comfort, to wear any ordinary stock shoe, and gives them the same appearance as their more fortunate friends. Descriptive circulars free to all. Ask for terms to agents. Address
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The lifeboats round the British coast during the last year rescued 628 people.

Beware of Ointments for Catarrh that Contain Mercury
as mercury will surely destroy the sense of smell and completely derange the whole system when entering it through the mucous surface. Such articles should never be used except on prescriptions from reputable physicians, as the damage they will do is ten fold to the good you can possibly derive from them. Hall's Catarrh Cure, manufactured by F. J. Cheney & Co., Toledo, O., contains no mercury, and is taken internally, acting directly upon the blood and mucous surfaces of the system. In buying Hall's Catarrh Cure be sure you get the genuine. It is taken internally, and made in Toledo, Ohio, by F. J. Cheney & Co. Testimonials free.
Sold by Druggists, price 75c. per bottle.
Hall's Family Pills are the best.

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Why so?

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