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MARYLAND

THE



FARMER:

DEVOTED TO
AGRICULTURE, HORTICULTURE,

LIVE STOCK
and RURAL ECONOMY.

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WINTER.

"The wind blows bitterly through the wood,
And the wet leaves break the fall;
But God made Winter and knows it good,
And Winter comes to all.

O the days of Summer are long and fair,
With blue unclouded sky;
But the very sun grows hard to bear,
And the grass turns brown and dry.

O patient pathos of Winter skies,
Spread out o'er the withered plain,
Under your hush a secret lies,
Which is not all of pain.

I know the leaves from the trees are strewn,
That the birds have taken wing—
They will only find that the trees are grown
When they come back in Spring."

It is true that winter has come and it reminds us that another year has passed, fraught with its wonderful and multifarious blessings and chastenings to all of us individually, who have each his sorrow to bear with humility, or his joy with becoming thankfulness. As a great people we have much to rejoice over and be grateful for. The general health of the country, the unprecedented abundance of vegetable production, notwithstanding the long and severe drought which has visited many localities of our wide spread nation, were no doubt sincerely acknowledged in the heartfelt prayers and praises to our beneficent Creator on Thanksgiving day by the American People.

In closing the labors of the year, let every farmer feel it his solemn duty to provide

comfort and warmth for his household and all his helpless dumb animals which are so tributary to his wealth and pleasure. There is every natural prognostication of a severe and long winter before us, and it is the part of wisdom to provide against it as far as possible, by making timely provision against its rigors. That we may have time to do so, let us join cheerfully in the beautiful invocation of our great poet—*Bryant*.

Yet one smile more, departing, distant sun?
One mellow smile through the soft vapory air,
Ere o'er the frozen earth the loud winds run,
Or snows are sifted o'er the meadows bare.
One smile on the brown hills and naked trees,
And the dark rocks whose summer wreaths
are cast,

And the blue gentian flower that, in the breeze,
Nods lonely, of her beauteous race the last.
Yet a few sunny days in which the bee
Shall murmur by the hedge that skirts the way;
The cricket chirp upon the russet lea,
And man delights to linger in thy ray;
Yet one rich smile and we will try to bear
The piercing winter frost and winds and dark-
ening air.

All these little matters well accomplished, and everything set in order, the farmer can wait with joy and beaming happiness the crowning merry-making of the year—jovial happy Christmas! and with old Wither's sing—

"Lo, now is come our joyful'st feast!
Let every man be jolly,
Each room with yvie leaves is drest,
And every post with holly,
Now all our neighbors' chimneys smoke,
And Christmas blocks are burning;
Their ovens they with bak't meats choke,
And all their spits are turning,
Without the door let sorrow lie,
And if, for cold, it hap to die,
Wee'l bury 't in a Christmas pye,
And evermore be merry."

Farm Work for December.

This is no idle month for either the farmer or gardener. All emergencies of weather are to be provided for by both the farmer and gardener. First of all for the health and comfort of our respective families be sure to embrace the first opportunity to get a supply of ice. This is likely to be a long, cold winter, and it is the part of wisdom to provide for it. If it should be otherwise, nothing is lost by the early provision for a different season. To do so, see that you provide for the comfort of all your animals, by having warm shelters and stables; heaps of leaves dry and cut straw for the bedding of stalls and the littering of sheds that all your stock may have warm, dry beds to sleep on and to walk over when exercising. Let, good, clean water be accessible to them at all times. Do not force them to quench their thirst, to walk through mud and mire a long or short distance, and rely upon their ingenuity to break the ice for a drink.

Be sure to sow weekly or oftener a supply of plaster over the manure piles, compost heaps and in the stalls of the stables. It not only fixes the ammonia but it keeps intact this volatile matter that so effects eyesight in all who are stalled and chained and forced to endure its insidious effects.

See that both corn and provender are brought into close connection with the "crib" and the farm yard, before snow offers an impediment to such enterprises and all important work. A "stick" in this direction will save hours of chagrin, and work, and terrible discomfort, that must be performed, stormy or not, for the preservation of animal life. Take time by the forelock if you wish to live comfortably and have easy consciences during the coming winter, predicted to be a long and cold one.

The corn crop is supposed to be in the cribs, but if not, let it be housed as soon as possible, certainly before Christmas, as it is liable to depredation all the time it is in the field, and the longer it is out, the shorter will be the crop. Provender ought to be conveniently placed, so as in bad weather, to be easily accessible for feeding the different sorts of stock. Shelters must be at once provided to keep the stock warm and dry. Large quantities of leaves, it is advisable to have gathered dry and put under cover to make beds for cows and hogs particularly; and a large wood pile against the coming of deep snows, bad roads and severely cold weather. Keep all the shelters for sheep and young stock well littered with leaves or straw, so that they will be dry at all times.

Tobacco.

Strip all the tobacco you can before New Year. It gives a good start in next year's work.

Milch Cows.

Feed your cows generously and make all the butter you can before freezing weather comes in.

Hogs.

Push ahead the fattening of those intended for killing. Feed them regularly with a variety of food until a week or ten days before you kill them, during which time confine their diet to sound corn or peas, or both, so as to harden their fat and make the meat firm.

Breeding Sows and Store Hogs.

Should receive good attention and be high fed during the cold term. They should have warm lodgings in close pens, with plenty of dry litter for beds, and these beds changed at least once a week, so as to keep them dry. See that occasionally they have sulphur and salt in their food, not much at a time, and have access to clean water and charcoal or rotten wood.

Stock of all Kinds.

Feed all the stock generously, but waste not the hay or other long provender; keep the barnyard well covered with corn stalks, leaves, muck, old straw, wood's earth, and any and everything that will increase the manure pile, by the constant tramping of the stock, and by absorbing the liquid manure. Use plaster freely in the barnyard. Let your stock have plenty of salt, and sometimes ashes may be mixed in equal portion with the salt. Keep the young and weak stock separated from the older and stronger. If you have a spiteful ox or cow, or a vicious horse, put it by itself that it may not injure others. Lock your stable doors at night; it may be some protection against thieves, or home-folks riding the horses at night, as is often practiced by our sable help and sometimes by our white employees.

Plowing.

All low, turfy spots ought this month to be plowed in narrow lands, with the center furrows left deep and clear, so as to act as drains. All stiff lands should be plowed deep, or subsoiled, so as to have the full benefit of the ameliorating and fertilizing effects of the frost and snow of winter.

Poultry.

If you desire a good supply of eggs, see that your hen-house is warm and kept dry and clean. Make their nests of leaves or cut straw. Have boxes filled with coarse gravel, lime or broken bones,—coarse bone dust is excellent,—accessible to the fowls, and pure water; let a large box be

kept filled with ashes for them to dust themselves. Feed high with a variety of food—baked or boiled potatoes mixed with meal, husks, oats, rye, or buckwheat, and bits of refuse meat, &c See that they have sometimes the outer leaves of cabbage, or turnips cut fine Sulphur or lime occasionally put in the water is wholesome, and cayenne pepper sprinkled over their potatoes or cabbage, &c., is excellent for the preservation of their health.

Garden Work for December.

Those who have charge of a family garden in the country have but little work to do this month if they were industrious, and followed our suggestions for work to be performed in the garden during September and October. But if, from any cause, certain work has been neglected, it behooves our gardeners to take prompt action now.

Cabbages and Roots.—If not secured already, must be, except carrots, parsnips and salsify, which are best left in the ground all winter, and taken up fresh as wanted for use.

Artichoke, Asparagus and Strawberry beds may all still be dressed and mulched with manure; care being taken not to cover the strawberry plants unless on the approach of severe cold a slight sprinkling of straw may be given to them.

Stiff Clay Beds.—Either trench these, or manure well and spade up deep, leaving them in the rough state for the action of the frost.

Make Compost Beds.

Prune, in good weather, hardy trees and shrubs.

Plants in Frames.—Look well to your cold frames, and when the moderation of the weather will allow, raise the sashes in the middle of the day, taking care to close them before sunset, or before, if the weather turns cold. Cover the glasses with mats or old carpets, or even plank, in cold weather

Consumption Cured.

An old physician retired from practice, having had placed in his hands by an East India missionary the formula of a simple vegetable remedy for the speedy and permanent cure of Consumption, Bronchitis, Catarrh, Asthma, and all Throat and Lung affections, also a positive and radical cure for nervous debility and all nervous complaints, after having tested its wonderful curative powers in thousands of cases, has felt it his duty to make it known to his suffering fellows Actuated by this motive and a desire to relieve human suffering, I will send free of charge to all who desire it, this recipe, in German, French or English, with full directions for preparing and using. Sent by mail by addressing with stamp, naming this paper. W. A. NOYES, 149 *Power's Block, Rochester, Y.*—*

For the Maryland Farmer.

Saving Fuel.

Where fuel is the most plentiful, obtaining and preparing it is felt to be a hardship; and where fuel is scarce and high, this hardship is greater yet. No matter how the reader may be situated, he will be thankful for any hints which will enable him to reduce the amount of fuel required. Though he have an abundance of fuel upon his own land, the labor of preparing the necessary winter supply is so great that any opportunity to reduce it will receive a hearty welcome.

Let me first enter my objection to a plan very commonly adopted to save fuel—using stoves in place of fire-places. Thirty years ago fire-places were used nearly altogether; but as stoves have been improved, they have taken the place of fire places. In the North one very rarely sees a fire place now; they yet more largely obtain in the South, but even here are being rapidly replaced by stoves. A stove requires much less fuel than a fire place; but the latter is so much more healthful that I consider it poor policy to discard it. The fire place affords an excellent means for ventilation, while the stove does not. The foul air of the room is carried up the chimney and pure air enters to occupy the vacuum. We consider health too lightly while we enjoy it; we are too ready to sacrifice it to appearance, present comfort, or the saving of a few cents; and therefore we close up the old fire-place, with its cheerful open fire, and put up a stove, which increases the foulness of the air in the room rather than diminishing it, in its place. The open fire is so cheerful, makes the room so cosy and homelike, that I am sorry to see it go; and knowing what its going, means to the health of the household, am yet more sorry.

The first thing to do to save fuel is to be lavish of it. This may appear paradoxical, but it is nevertheless true. Thoroughly heat the room, and afterwards very little fuel will be required. Make up a rousing fire in the fire-place, and afterwards the open bed of coals will keep the room warm; or make a hot fire in the stove and when the room is warmed close all the dampers and it will be kept warm. On the other hand, if you put but little fuel into the stove or fire-place the room will not be thoroughly warmed, the fuel will soon be

consumed, and more will be required; in the end the three or four small fires will require more fuel than the one large fire, and the room will not be well warmed at all.

When a stove is used, not a little of the fuel can be saved by a proper manipulation of the dampers. Fully five people out of ten do not know what dampers are for, other than to start a fire to burning briskly; when the fire is started the dampers are all opened, if by chance they have been closed, and kept open; and some one wonders why the stove requires so much fuel, when more than half of the heat is escaping through the pipe. Throw the dampers open till the fire has made good headway; then close them at the back of the stove and all the heat will be thrown out into the room. There should be a damper in the pipe always, to regulate the draught. Keep it open while the fire is getting started and then close it partially.

The room must not be closed up so tightly that foul air can not escape and pure air can not enter, but our houses are generally too open, and when rightly managed, ventilation can be secured without greatly lowering the temperature of the room. Windows and doors should fit closely; for while cracks about them give the pure air a splendid opportunity to enter, ventilation in this way is too expensive and is positively injurious, for cold draughts strike directly upon the occupants of the room. One rarely realizes how much cold air will enter through a crack under a door till he places his hand just inside of it. When a room is heated by a fire place, the only effort should be to admit pure air, as the foul air will escape by way of the chimney. The best way to admit pure air in this case is to allow it to enter by way of a transom above a door just opposite the fire; or by way of a crack formed by lowering of a window as cold air is heavier than the heated air in the room, the former will gradually sink, becoming warmed on its way, and reach the occupants of the room as a current not perceptible by reason of either its temperature or velocity. The opening required is very small, as the outside air will enter rapidly. A room heated by a stove must be more open. the floors should always be tight, and old clothes or straw placed under the carpet will not only save the carpet but save fuel as well.

JOHN M. STAHL.

Editorial Letter No 3.

THE BOSTON MECHANIC INSTITUTES.

The New England Manufacturers and Mechanic Institute Fair opened its exhibition this year on the 3rd of September. This is an off-shoot or branch of the old Massachusetts "Charitable Mechanics Association" of Boston, which formerly held an exhibition only once in four years. The management of this Institute became unsatisfactory to some of the enterprising men of Boston, and a new stock company was organized under the above title, with a capital of \$200,000, went into the suburbs of the city, secured a lot of about five acres, and commenced the erection of buildings covering nearly the entire lot. The main hall alone contains one hundred and seventy thousand square feet; the music hall will seat 10,000 people, and there are other rooms, all of which is occupied about two months each year for the exhibition and the balance of the year the entire buildings are rented out for various purposes, which rental pays a handsome dividend on the investment. We spent some time between this, and that of the old Massachusetts Charitable Mechanics Association which held its 15th exhibition at this time. Both associations will keep open about 60 days and each made a grand display and were alike well attended. The public patronage was about equal to any exposition ever held in this country, unless it may have been that of the Centennial.

We were amazed to think how strange it was that Boston could maintain two exhibitions of such magnitude at the same time, while Baltimore cannot support one. This is a subject we have often referred to, and still indulge the hope that the enterprising citizens of Baltimore will not abandon their efforts to erect buildings for such a noble purpose, but will continue in the good work until success is reached.

SCYTHE AND AXE FACTORY.

During my summer trip through the Eastern States, referred to in former letters, I made it a point to visit manufactories and places of note on the route. In passing through Kennebec county, Maine, I stopped at Oakland to visit the great Scythe and Axe factory of R. B. Dunn. These extensive works are built upon a solid ledge foundation on the Messalonskee river which empties into the Kennebec. The works are known as the "Dunn Edge Tool Co.," established by Mr. R. B. Dunn about 40 years ago, and who, I am glad to say, is still living to enjoy the fruits of a long and useful life, and though four score years old is yet well and vigorous at his advanced age. The making of axes has always been heavy and hard work. The eye has been made by hammering and welding the iron by hand, until within a few months past. Now a machine has been invented that punches out of solid iron and shapes the eye and pole of the axe at one operation. This machine will turn out 600 axes per day, with eye and pole more perfect and better than can possibly be made by hand, and cost about \$15,000.

Having been shown through all the departments of these works by Mr. Ayre, the manager, I was surprised at the extent of them, and can well believe what is said, that this is the largest scythe and axe factory in the world. This establishment turns out annually 20,000 dozen scythes, 10,000 dozen axes, 2,000 dozen hay knives and grass hooks. The last named article was never made in this country until about 20 years ago—the writer procured an imported one as a pattern and sent it to this factory to work by, and now it is seldom that an imported grass hook can be found in the whole country.

A BUTTER FACTORY.

We next visited a butter factory located in Winthrop, Maine, which receives the cream from the milk given by from 4 to

500 cows, nearly all of them are Jerseys. This factory sends out teams every morning to gather up the cream from each homestead. Every farmer or dairyman is compelled by the company to keep his milk in an improved cooler, which are all alike, but of different sizes. The man who gathers the cream, first examines each cooler, takes the measurement of the cream; then draws off the milk, which is left to the farmer for his own use, empties the cream into the can he carries for collection of the same, which is ingeniously constructed with a floating cover so made as to prevent any motion of the cream while taking it to the factory, otherwise, by the shaking of the cream during its journey, it might become butter or at least buttery, from the continuous churning motion of the vehicle over its rough journey. On the arrival of the cream at the factory, it is very conveniently arranged to have it quickly emptied into large vats, which, being made double with space between for cold or hot water as desired, the cream is kept at the proper temperature. These vats each hold 150 gallons, and the cream is drawn direct from them into the churn which holds 200 gallons. This churn was furnished by that well known firm, Burrell & Whitman. Churning is done every day. The cream is allowed to slightly sour before it is churned. The butter is worked by hand, while the churning is done by steam power from a six horse-power engine in the basement of the building. The butter is packed in tubs or firkins and is first-class in quality, bringing the highest prices in the market.

Looking into and admiring the workings of this butter factory, I cannot see why such establishments should not be found in every county of Maryland. They are surely a great benefit to the community and a great relief to the farmer's family. Milking and care of cows would be all the labor required in the care and labor of butter-making.

W.

Deep Ploughing and Moisture.

The question is often asked: "How does deep ploughing make the soil moister?" I believe it is an accepted fact that wherever warm air comes in contact with a body cooler than itself the water in it condenses into drops. On a warm day we see it often on the outside of a pitcher of cold water. Fogs and dews are made in that way, and our rain, most of it, coming up from the gulf in those heavy currents of warm air that we frequently have. When we pulverize the soil deep the warm air, which is full of moisture, penetrates down and all through it, and the ground, being cooler than the air, condenses the water into drops, which answers in place of rain; so the deeper and the more we pulverize it the more moisture it will collect from the air. Not only that, but as warm air is rich in food for plants it serves in place of manure, too. Thirty years ago there was a terrible drought in the East. Professor Mapes, a large market gardener, had had his ground underdrained and subsoiled, and his crops, where he could, were cultivated with a subsoil plough. A committee went to see his place after nine weeks of drought, and it found everything as flourishing as if there had been plenty of rain. His corn (it was the 3d of September) was estimated at ninety bushels to the acre, while on land cultivated in the usual way, near by, it was all burnt up. While I do not think deep ploughing is everything, still I think deep and thorough pulverizing of our land will lessen the effects of a drought.

Action of Frost.

The process of congelation is curious and interesting. It is well known that water, when frozen, is expanded, and occupies more space than it did before, and hence, that ice is lighter than water, and swims upon it. If a bottle full of water, tightly corked, be left to freeze, the bottle will be broken for want of room for the expansion of the water while assuming the solid form. This property of water, when frozen, tends every year to diminish the height of mountains. Fissures and crevices become filled with water during the summer, and its expansive power when frozen detaches masses of rocks, which will roll down to lower positions. In its more mod-

erate and minute effects, the operation of this general law is productive of a very beneficial consequence to the farmer and gardener, for the hard clods of turned-up soil are loosened and broken into pieces by the expansion of water which they contain when frozen. The earth is pulverized and brought to a finely divided condition for receiving seed. Hence the utility of turning up strong or clay soils to be acted upon by the frosts of winter, thus saving mechanical labor in trying to accomplish what the natural forces can do so cheaply and so well.—*Ex.*

November Crop Reports.

The State agents' reports to the Agricultural Department up to 1st of November, indicate the cotton crop to be somewhat larger than that of 1883, although the yield per acre was less in nearly all the cotton states than that given in the census for 1880.

CORN.—The returns of the rate of yield of corn indicate a product somewhat in excess of 1,800,000,000 bushels, or an average rate a small fraction above 26 bushels per acre. The best yields are, as in 1883, in what has been designated the Great American Desert. The "arid regions" in the vicinity of the hundredth meridian have produced heavy crops of maize of high quality. That line of longitude has ceased to be an absolute barrier to corn production or general farming, the rate of yield in Nebraska being 38.5; in Kansas 38; Iowa 35; Missouri 34; Minnesota 33.5; Ohio 31; Illinois 30; Indiana 29; Michigan 27; Wisconsin 24.5; Kentucky 23. The Southern States report a yield of 22 bushels in Maryland, 20 in Tennessee, 19 in Arkansas, 16 in Virginia, 15 in Texas, 13 in Mississippi and Alabama, 12.8 in Louisiana, 11 in Georgia and less in other states. The New England States average nearly 33 bushels; New York returns 30 bushels and Pennsylvania 31. The quality of corn is better than in 1883.

HARD TO BELIEVE—It is hard to believe that a man was cured of a Kidney disease after his body was swollen as big as a barrel and he had been given up as incurable and lay at death's door. Yet such a cure was accomplished by Kidney Wort in the person of M. M. Devereaux Ionia, Mich., who says: "After thirteen of the best doctors in Detroit had given me up, I was cured by Kidney wort. I want every one to know what a boon it is."

For the Maryland Farmer.

"Farming Don't Pay!"

VERSUS

"Do you Pay as a Farmer?"

Messrs. Editors.—The season of the farmer's rest, if a good farmer ever has such, has arrived, and with larder and cellar well stocked, the harvests under shelter and the stalls full of the mute witnesses and companions of his labors, he can enjoy a well-earned repose, and in it consider propositions, weigh arguments, and reach correct decisions upon the questions of the farmer's life. Amidst the toils of the working seasons, the uncertainties that slumber in the unsolved problems of nature, the hopes, fears, doubts and often losses of his business life, the echo of the trite phrase, "farming don't pay," is often in his mind, finds perhaps repeated utterance from his lips,— "what we often assert, we at last believe," is another trite saying and applicable to the "don't pay" libel on a farmer's life. If farming, the foundation occupation of human society, don't pay, a necessary sequence of such a state of affairs would be, that the entire abandonment by all of this unprofitable employment is only a question of time, for common sense would counsel that the "non paying" pursuit be exchanged for a "paying" one.

Now, as the farmer is the producer of the primary, indispensable necessities of life and not of its secondary comforts and luxuries, an abandonment of farming would mean the cessation of all the other pursuits of life, for the spread of the human family has long ago rendered nature's storehouse of accidental food plants, of the products of the net and the game bag, insufficient for the support of mankind. The miner, the manufacturer, the merchant may give up a non paying pursuit and thereby enhance the price here and there of a commodity or luxury; when the farmer abandons his calling, the beginning of the end of all is at hand. *His* pursuit *must* be a paying one and will ever remain so, for the products of his labor are the initial bases of the value of all other things. "But," will here a chronic growler exclaim, "we do not mean that farming does absolutely *not* pay, we mean that it does not pay enough, not sufficiently in comparison with the other industries of life." Ah! Truly this is an entirely different and more satisfactory

phase of the question, and worthy of a brief notice.

The speculative fluctuations, the startling ups and downs of the other pursuits of life are absent from the farmer's. The forces of nature are the sublime of conservatism and puts and calls, imaginary margins and "skinning along on trust" are unknown on her boards of trade. The farmer's bank, old nature, does a safe, cash business, carefully examines every draft on her resources and pays an equitable rate of interest. On this the farmer can rely, with this he must be satisfied, and yet, if he asked many a hollow-eyed, anxious man of business to compare balances of accounts at the end of an active life, how very often, nay, how almost universally would the farmer's account be the preferable one, even if he did not place a life passed in country peace, a heart enriched by the genial ties of neighborhood, a mind cultivated by a close contact with nature, and a soul led by such contact into the presence of the great God of nature,— if the farmer even did not lay these priceless items in his scale of balances.

The shore of time may here and there be strewn with the wreck of a farmer's life, and mismanagement, extravagance, sloth or any other of the causes of wrecked lives may have also had here its immutable result, but less than any other of life's craft does the farmer's hoist the signal of distress and by scores and scores the wrecks in the other pursuits of life out-number the farmer's list of "lost" And these wrecks, whether as having actually occurred, or being feared, lead to the query at the head of this article "do you pay as a farmer?"

An argument on this question would bring before us the data of modern agricultural science, of the thousand and one issues so ably argued in the MARYLAND FARMER and the agricultural literature of the day, the countless steps by which farming has become a science.

"To pay as a farmer" means to feel and to know that the watchword of the world is progress and that the farmer must march in the advancing column or share the inglorious fate of all laggards. Is any single profession, line of business, are mining and manufacturing carried on now as they were a hundred or even a score of years ago? The man attempting this would be gazed at as the Rip Van Winkle of his business pursuit, and his crude and antiquated

notions would be the amusement of the very tyro of modern business life. Is it necessary to point out the parallel in the farmer's pursuit, and can there be any one so blind as to think that the farm machines of the old time will meet the problems of the present age? In Europe the uneducated peasant has given way to the well informed scientific agriculturist; the crude implements of husbandry have been replaced by an array of time and labor saving machinery that in its exhibition would rival the machinery of the most complicated manufacturing industries; the prototypes of the domestic animals have been trebled and quadrupled in the size and the usefulness of their descendants, and the agriculturist's skill combines the phosphate rocks of the Carolinas with the soil from the primary formations of Pennsylvania, the soil taken from the islands of the Pacific with the exhausted fields of the Atlantic coast line, the crushed lime rocks of the Appalachians with the debris of the Mississippi basin.

In this active and progressing, investigating and appropriating scientific pursuit he who lags behind is rapidly passed by the more intelligent competitor, and whatever the results of farming may be, *he* certainly, as a farmer, "does not pay."

"A hint sometimes is better than a howl," as the old lady said when she brought out her best cherry cordial upon a praise of its remembered excellence and not upon the old dodge of "something disagreeing with the stomach;" and so, with a God speed to all true sons of the soil, a commendation of the study of the modern science of agriculture, an assurance that "farming will and *must* pay, if the individual "pays as a farmer." I remain, yours, HAYFIELD.

A great deal is said about pulverizing the clods which turn up in the most heavy land after ploughing. Prevention is the best cure. If the field is well drained and not ploughed when wet there will be no clods. It will, however, take two or three seasons to thoroughly fine the soil that has been injured by previous mismanagement. Fall ploughing, turning the land in ridges and leaving it as rough as possible so as to expose the moist surface to the frost will do the work. But unless there are underdrains to carry off the water the plowing will do as much harm as good.

Agricultural Clippings.

PORK IN THE SOUTH.—Prof. Stelle, agricultural editor of the *Mobile Register*, thinks the southern states admirably adapted to raising hogs, and that by the new refrigerating inventions pork may be saved at the south as well as anywhere else. The long continued warm weather is favorable to rapid fattening and cheap pork, since hogs cannot be kept up and warmed by stoves and wood fires in cold weather, and it is expensive to warm them by heat producing food like corn and peas. He thinks pork can be made at less cost in the south than in the north.

THE CATALPA.—Gen. Harrison, in an address at an agricultural fair near Cincinnati over fifty years ago, told of a catalpa footlog over a small stream in the Wabash country which had been in use for one hundred years and was still sound, showing no sign of decay. There are many well authenticated reports of catalpa fence posts which have been set fifty years or more and still show no signs of decay. It is generally believed by those who have had a lifelong experience with it that it will outlast any other timber in use, not even excepting red cedar.

ICE upon the farm, and especially in the dairy, is more and more becoming a necessity. The saving in food, meat, etc., by the use of ice alone should lead every farmer to build an ice-house this fall, and fill it with ice the coming winter. An ice-house can be built that will supply a family with one of the greatest comforts and conveniences of the hot months at a trifling expence. It is wise economy to build one that is substantial, and will last for a long time. It has been carefully estimated that, under ordinary circumstances of harvesting the ice, and with a house to hold from twenty to thirty five tons, the ice can be furnished for fifty cents a ton. At such a low rate, surely many farmers can not afford any longer to deny themselves of ice during the hot months of summer. Let an ice-house be built this fall in time for the ice crop.—*City and Country*.

SOME of the greatest advantages of underdraining are found in putting tiles in fields that in most places are dry enough

already. In a wet time ploughing, cultivating or other work on the entire field is suspended until these places get into condition to work. The Loss from this is most noticeable in hoed crops, as corn or potatoes, where weeds get the advantage and double or treble the labor of after cultivation. With a field dry in parts this evil may be avoided.

GRASS.—That grass is the most profitable farm crop, taking one year with another, is evident to those who have investigated the subject. The value of a three-acre field of oats last year was about seventy-five dollars. The land was seeded to grass, and the hay taken from the same field this year is worth as much. The cost of growing and marketing the oats was more than three times that of the hay, saying nothing about the value of the fertilizers used, and allowing that each crop received an equal benefit from them. But in order to grow the best grasses we believe that land should be worked over and reseeded every few years. By plowing more and cultivating thoroughly more grass will be raised as well as an abundance of other crops.

FIELD PEAS.—A writer in the *Rural Record*, in speaking of the field pea as a fertilizer, says: "These pea roots, penetrating to such a great depth in the soil and permeating the land in every direction, loosen it up more perfectly than all the plows and harrows combined. I have some black prairie hammock land that is cold, wet and crawfishy. For several years I could never get a stand of corn. Year before last, after failing to get a stand, and as the season was far advanced, I plowed up the partial stand of corn and sowed down the red cowpea. The yield of vines was immense, and I saved I do not think less than three tons superior hay per acre, besides leaving a goodly number on the ground to decay. The next year this land was the looser soil I had on the place; it was ready for the plow before any other (it had before this been too wet and sticky to plow until very late in the season,) and was in a condition to receive almost any crop."

TEACHERS WANTED—10 PRINCIPALS, 12 Assistants, and a number for Music, Art, and Specialties. Application-form mailed for postage. **SCHOOL SUPPLY BUREAU**, Chicago, Ill.

For the Maryland Farmer.

Home Made Bacon.

Not enough attention is paid by the majority of farmers to this important branch of farm economy. A plenty of good bacon is the same as money to the farmer. People must eat, and the farmer who has bacon to sell can always get labor when he wants it, or procure a few dollars of hard cash whenever he stands in need of a little ready money. Hogs are a prolific stock, easy to raise and manage, and always marketable in the form of pork, bacon, or lard. With so much idle land as most farmers possess, and such ample facilities for the raising of cheap meat, there is every inducement for our people to produce it largely. We would suggest that farmers devote a portion of their farms to permanent range and pasturage for hogs, where they may be bred, fed, sheltered and cared for constantly under the eye of the owner. It is often the case that farmers have wood land adjoining their fields, that is well set with acorn and nut trees, and having running water and other conveniences for the purpose. This land would make nice and healthy hog ranges, and if the owner would take a little time to clear off some of the rubbish timber and under growth, and to put out plum, mulberry, persimmon, chestnut, and other trees to yield fruit and nuts, it would cost but little, after a few years, to raise a large herd of hogs on every farm. Let every fruit and nut bearing tree on the ground remain, and put out more. We would press this subject upon the attention of farmers.

Hogs need exercise and a wide range to take it in—several acres at least. Close confinement, and feeding with slops and swill, does not produce healthy, savory pork and bacon. There is a fearful amount of diseased meat in the market. It is bred of close confinement and sloppy food. There is an imperative and pressing need of a change in the manner of raising hogs. They need more solid food, such as acorns, nuts, fruit, and sound corn. Farmers with plenty of land have no excuse for keeping hogs in confinement.

It is well enough, of course, to feed to pigs all the kitchen slops and scraps that you have, and to cook vegetables for them too, but it should not be the exclusive feed. They should have corn and other solid

food also, And the animals should have room to range about and hunt forage for themselves. It would be well to have an orchard lot of apple, peach, cherry, plum, and mulberry trees fenced off as a summer range for the pigs. When these fruits were gone they could be turned in the woodland range to get acorns, &c., and by the time these were over they would be almost fat enough to kill, and would require but a little corn to finish up the process, and make the flesh firm and lard white. We must give more attention to the growing of sound bacon. B. W. J.

SIR JOHN B. LAWS in his recent report on the wheat crop of 1884, in England, says:—The area under wheat in the united kingdom for the present year, as given in the agricultural returns, is 2,745,485 acres. Calculating the yield at 29½ bushels per acre, and deducting 2½ bushels per acre for seed, we have an available produce of 9,309,910 quarters. The estimated number of people to be fed during the year from September 1, 1884, to August 31, 1885, is slightly over 36½ millions. Upon an average consumption of 5.65 bushels per head our requirements will amount to 25,628,697 quarters, of which our own crop will furnish 9½ millions, leaving 16½ millions to be imported from foreign countries.

The imports of foreign wheat, less exports, into the United Kingdom for the harvest year of 1883-84 amounted to 15,815,878 quarters, while the requirements, based upon the yield of my own crop last year, amounted to 15,771,285. The actual imports, therefore, agree almost exactly with the calculated requirements; but this accuracy is apparent rather than real. The stock of foreign wheat in the warehouses on September 1, 1883, was known to be enormous, and this stock has probably been reduced. The low price of wheat during the past year has also caused a large proportion of home grown wheat to be consumed by stock, and the still lower prices which are likely to prevail during the coming year will tend to increase the consumption.

QUANTITY AND QUALITY.—In the Diamond Dyes more coloring is given than in any known dyes, and they give faster and more brilliant colors. 10c at all druggists. Wells, Richardson & Co., Burlington, Vt. Sample Card, 32 colors, and book of directions for 2c. stamp.

The Improved Live-Stock Breeders' Association.

The regular quarterly meeting of the Improved Live Stock Breeders' Association of Maryland was held at the Carrollton Hotel, on the 12th ultimo. Mr. A. M. Fulford, of Harford county, president; Mr. T. Alex. Seth, secretary. The gold medal of the association was ordered for presentation to Mr. G. A. T. Snouffer, of Frederick, for the best herd of beef cattle at the State fair at Hagerstown. Messrs. Fulford and Seth were elected delegates, one to attend the Fat Stock Show at Chicago, which closes on the 20th ult., and the other to represent this association at the convention of cattlemen at St. Louis, which opens on the 17th of November. They were instructed to favor measures to secure legislation for the suppression of pleuro pneumonia and other contagious cattle diseases. Mr. Frank Sanderson, of Baltimore county, read an interesting paper on the economical winter feeding of cattle.

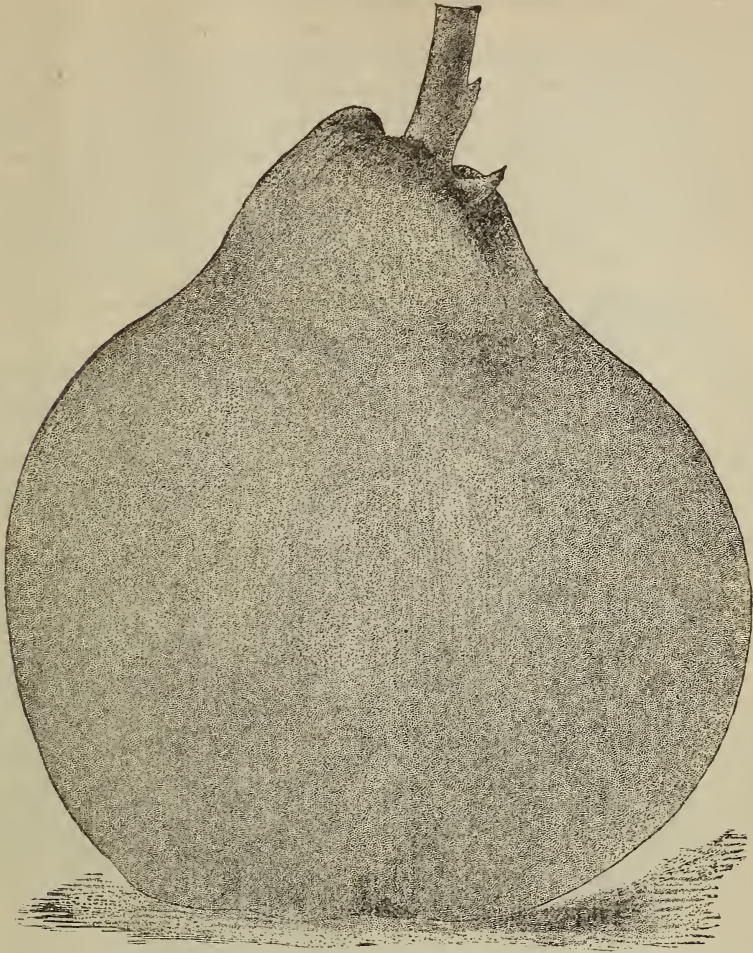
THE MARYLAND FARMER.—This excellent Journal for November is upon our desk, and contains as usual a very large amount of choice reading matter, of interest alike to farmers, gardeners, poultry raisers, and in fact to everybody. The low price of \$1.00 per year places it within reach of every man.—*Hagerstown News.*

AGRICULTURAL PRINTING.

Having all the various Cuts needed for embellishment, we are prepared to Print and furnish Premium Lists, Tickets, &c. for Agricultural Fairs, with dispatch, elegantly Printed and Illustrated, upon very reasonable Terms, as we make Agricultural Printing a Specialty.

Young Men!—Read This.

The Voltaic Belt Co., of Marshall, Mich., offer to send their celebrated Electro Voltaic Belt and other Electric Appliances on trial for thirty days, to men (young or old), afflicted with nervous debility, loss of vitality and manhood, and all kindred troubles. Also for rheumatism, neuralgia, paralysis, and many other diseases. Complete restoration to health, vigor and manhood guaranteed. No risk incurred, as thirty days trial is allowed. Write them at once for illustrated pamphlet, free.



MEECH'S PROLIFIC QUINCE.—Size reduced one-third.

HORTICULTURAL.

Meech's Prolific Quince.

The readers of the MARYLAND FARMER have already some idea of this great new quince from the letters published for several years past. We have now the pleasure of giving them a picture of this fruit with a photograph of a branch of a five-year-old tree. Fully recognizing the merits of all varieties that have preceded it, we are glad to know that it is superior to them all, possessing every desirable quality both in tree and fruit. The tree is very hardy, vigor-

ous and productive; and bears every year. With an unprecedented drouth this season, it has borne very fine fruit—the admiration of all visitors. The larger specimens have run twenty to the peck. The general shape is obscure pyriform, with variations, as shown in the photograph of a branch from a five-year tree that bore over ninety to ripeness. The time of ripening in New Jersey is the early part to the middle of October, varying somewhat with seasons; and it will remain on the trees several weeks if not gathered. The flesh cooks as soft as a peach and meets the demands of the

most fastidious taste.

Meech's Prolific Quince is specially remarkable for its early and abundant fruitage. Trees often blossom when only a year old, and this year several are bearing fruit in the nursery rows at that early age. In two nursery rows of 208 trees, 57 blossomed in 1884 at one year old. This is a horticultural wonder never before seen to have fruit on trees of every age from one up to

and quality of fruits. It is distinguished from the other leading sorts by ripening as much before them as the Portugal and Orange do before it. The "Prolific" just hits the happy medium between the earliest and latest varieties; suiting the producer, tradesman, and consumer; and by its remarkable productiveness, uniformity in size, regularity in bearing and superior quality, it meets every requirement of a



[Branch of fruit from a five year old tree which bore over ninety large, perfect Quinces in 1883.]

ten years, and no off year after they once begin to bear. The older trees, though pruned with unparalleled severity, still had so much fruit set as to need thinning one-half to prevent over bearing. Side by side with all the leading sorts in cultivation, it has shown a marked superiority over them all.

If there be any doubt that Meech's Prolific Quince is a new variety, it must be dispelled by comparing it with the Portugal and Orange, both of which ripen much earlier, besides having difference of form

perfect quince. It has the highest praise where it is known the best. The crops have always been of a superior quality and brought the highest market price; this year crates of three pecks each have sold for \$2.50 a crate in Newark and Philadelphia, when New York stock only sold for just half that price by the same dealers.

Let this new quince be tried by the readers of the MARYLAND FARMER.

Of this quince, Mr. Beech writes to the *Farm and Cottage Visitor*, of Vineland, N. J.:

"As a rule, I think that it will be found that "Meech's Prolific Quince" bears earlier than any other variety, and that it continues so prolific as to need thinning every year thereafter. I began my experiment with 25 trees set *quincunx* eight feet apart, which is too close by half, and yet with only this room to grow in they bore a crop when six years old worth 96 cents per tree or at the rate of \$450 per acre. The next

this quince. It was brought from Connecticut to New Jersey by one of the early settlers of Vineland without a specific name and would have probably remained an unrecognized waif had it not fallen into the hands of the horticulturist whose name it now bears, who being a specialist in quince culture, put it for comparison by the side of all the varieties he could procure and found it superior to them all."



THE "MAY KING" STRAWBERRY.

year the average was \$1.21 per tree. In 1883 the crop on trees five year old was worth \$1.25, on eight-year old trees it average about \$2.00. From the first crop till now the average has been \$2.50 per bushel. I now set standard trees fifteen feet apart *quincunx*, by which plan I gain one row in seven over squares and yet maintain the desired distance.

Very little is known of the history of

The "May King" Strawberry.

A new candidate for public favor and supremacy in the field and garden at this time is the MAY KING strawberry,—grown from seed of the Crescent, and now first offered by John S. Collins, of Moorestown, N. J. The plant is healthy and vigorous, very early and productive, has a staminate or perfect flower or blossom. The fruit is

of very bright red color and of best quality. Persons familiar with the Old Hovey Seedling of 28 or 30 years ago will be reminded of its similarity in looking at and testing the fruit of this berry.

THE BIRDS FOOT VIOLET.—We have before referred to the *Viola pedata*, or Birds Foot Violet, as being a desirable one to cultivate for its great beauty in spring. Besides flowering then, it blooms again in the fall, and in August and September, a few plants will seldom be without flowers on them. This is especially the case when a few days of rainy weather occur about that time. This kind is the only one of the native sorts that shows a disposition to bloom in the fall. There is a most beautiful variety of this violet with much dark purple in its flower. Both this and the true species thrive well in cultivation, in the hardy border. Planted in pots the divided leaves and numerous large flowers of this plant is a sight worth many a step to see.
—*Germantown Independent.*

The Red Astrachan

There is probably no apple that equals in beauty the Red Astrachan. Although it has been sparingly grown in this country for the last forty years or more, it is not until the last ten or fifteen years that it has begun to attract much attention as a market apple. In Chicago markets it is now the highest priced of all apples, probably. Although intensely sour before fully ripe, lovers of crisp and acid fruits will find few apples to compare with the Red Astrachan as an eating apple, when it is fully matured. There is a crisp mellowness in a very ripe Astrachan which we have never found elsewhere. The tree is not a young bearer. It demands a deep, rich soil. When twelve or fifteen years old the trees bear heavily. The tree is distinguished by a dense pyramidal head, and a profusion of large, very dark leaves. The fruit is a most lively red. It ripens with the Early Harvest. The Red Astrachan is said to have been introduced into England from Sweden about 1816. In 1820 it fruited, and a description of the fruit was given at that time in the transactions of the London Horticultural Society.—*Maine Farmer.*

Sweet Marjoram.

The Sweet Marjoram of gardens is known as the *Origanum Majorana*. It is by every one appreciated for its highly aromatic character, and it finds its way into the kitchen for many purposes. It is a native of Portugal. There is another European species, naturalized in this country to a great extent. It, too, has an aromatic taste, and is useful for seasoning. It is known as *Origanum Vulgare*. Not only is it useful in the way described, but it is as pretty a flowering plant as could be described. It is a perennial, and in the spring pushes up numerous shoots to a height of about two feet. These branch out, and terminate in oblong spikes of flowers. The color is pale pink. The flowers in themselves are not large, but there are a great many of them clustered together. Besides the flowers each one is accompanied with a bract, of a purplish color, altogether giving what appears to be a snowy head of flowers. Then the blooming season lasts for a long time, commencing in early July and lasting well on towards the end of summer. The family of plants to which the marjoram belongs is an extremely useful one. Not one species is even suspected of being injurious, while such well known members of it as the lavender, mint, rosemary, sage, thyme and hoarhound it would be hard to do without. Both for their domestic and ornamental uses these "labiate" plants are very useful.
—*Germantown Independent.*

A Model Fruit House.

A Pennsylvania man with a fancy for fruit farming, has built himself a retarding house for fruit, which cost \$5,000, and which the *Philadelphia Press* describes as follows: To economize space it is built square, fifty feet each way. It has two walls of stone, each twenty two inches thick, with an open space between of twelve inches, and this space filled in with charcoal as a non conductor of heat. Inside of the inside wall the ice is piled four feet thick, maintained in its place by studding and boards. Below the floor, is another four feet of ice resting on a foot of charcoal and above the room the ice is eleven feet thick, with three inches of wood above that, and when he builds another (if he ever does) he will make the ice fifteen feet thick above and eleven at the sides. Still this one works well; it never freezes in Winter, nor does it waste ice rapidly in

Summer. The temperature is always from thirty-three to thirty-seven degrees. Of course there are no windows, and it is a real dungeon. There are inside and outside doors made something like safe doors, and as nearly air tight as possible. If one should happen to get shut in, it would not be an easy matter to get an alarm to the outside world. The melting ice from above is conducted down below the under floor in pipes and discharged where it will do the least harm. It takes from 1,000 to 1,200 tons of ice to fill this house, and it is supplied from an artificial pond on the place. The cost of filling is estimated at about fifteen cents per ton.

Profit in Raspberries.

Mr. D. Van Allen, of Albany county, N. Y., writes as follows to the *New England Homestead*: Two thousand Cuthbert raspberry plants were set in the fall of 1881, in rows, five feet apart in the rows. The soil was a rich loam. In the Spring, the plants started early and grew right along, so that by Fall the plantation had the appearance of a two years growth. The young plants were pinched back when they had attained a growth of two feet, and in the rows between the plants a good crop of cabbage was grown. The plantation was well cultivated throughout the season of 1882, and not a weed was allowed to grow. Now for the results: The past season there were picked and sold from the plantation of a little less than an acre, 100 bushels of fruit that sold for thirteen cents per quart, net, or in round numbers \$384 worth of berries. In addition to this, 48,000 plants were dug from the patch this Fall, and sold to one nurseryman for three dollars a thousand, amounting to \$114. Enough plants were kept to set two acres, and the prospect for an immense yield of fruit next season is good.

SMALL FRUITS.—Small fruits can be raised while we are waiting for trees to come into bearing. A good supply of them can be obtained the second year after setting out. Raspberry, blackberry and gooseberry plants can be got for \$2.50 to \$3.00 per hundred now, and others alike reasonably. No one need go without small fruits when bushels can be had for 2½ cents each. Also a large lot of strawberries can be grown profitably among the rows of fruit trees.

THE DAIRY.

An American Professor of Dairy Husbandry.

Prof. L. B. Arnold writes to the *Live Stock Journal* as follows: It is a curious circumstance in the history of American dairying that the first professor of dairy husbandry on the American continent should be located in one of the extreme Southern States, but so it is. John M. Harvey, a young man and recent graduate of the Mississippi Agricultural College, and a native born Mississippian, has lately been appointed Professor of Dairy Husbandry in that institution, and who has been in the North, studying the art as it appears in the higher latitudes of the great Northwest, Canada, and the famous dairy districts of New York and New England.

The College I learn, is not at the present time largely concerned either with the practical or scientific part of dairying. Its action appears to be shaped rather to the view to future necessities of a developing interest than to the exigencies of the present. Dairying exists and is increasing in the vicinity of the college, and is, indeed, a growing interest in all the northern part of the State. One of the trustees of the college—Mr. Montgomery—is the owner of a large herd of Jersey cattle—milk cows and breeding stock—from which a large quantity of butter is made, all of which is sold and consumed in the near-by markets at fifty cents a pound the year through.

The presence of such a large and prosperous herd, yielding profitable returns from fancy butter and the sale of stock, shows the possibilities, the tendencies, and the demands of the locality, and the wisdom of shaping the work of the college to foster them.

The mere existence of such a herd in a cotton growing State, considered in connection with the heavy shipments of dairy cattle, especially Jerseys, toward all parts of the South during the last few years, and the published notices of large and enthusiastic dairy conventions in Missouri, Tennessee and several other Southern States, are plain evidences of the Southern movement of the dairy, and a warning to Northern dairymen, that the cities of the South may not forever afford an outlet for their spare butter and cheese. The disposal of the

surplus products of the North is now chiefly divided between England and the South, and both localities are making vigorous efforts to supply themselves with these luxuries with their own productions. The English will not be very likely to supply themselves wholly, but the South will, and perhaps in time make some to spare. To talk of exporting dairy products from the Southern States may seem a little "previous" just now, but to predict such an event would not seem a more strange prophecy than twenty years ago, to have predicted that the establishment of a dairy department in an agricultural college, with a learned professor to preside over it for the benefit of the dairy interest in its immediate environment, would first occur in a Southern State, and right at the front door of the home of American cotton, sugar, tobacco, yet such an event has transpired, and the North may as well be beginning to understand what, at no very distant day, they must meet, as to wait for the logic of experience to convince them.

ACCORDING to experiments in the creameries of Burrell & Whitman, Little Falls, N. Y., the least cooling turned out the best butter, and in the creamery where the most cooling was done, the poorest. "Milk fats are not in their best state for making butter when first drawn. They are improved by changes which they undergo after the milk comes into the hands of the dairyman. Much cooling retards these changes. They certainly go on much better at 60 degrees than at 50 and below."

GREAT YIELD OF BUTTER IN SEVEN DAYS;—A few weeks ago Ida of St Lambert reached the highest limit of butter production, and claimed the title of "Jersey Queen," but has been dethroned by Mary Anne of St Lambert, who, at an official test made THIRTYSIX POUNDS and TWELVE OUNCES of butter. Her milk was of such wonderful richness that one pound of butter was made from every seven pounds of milk. Ida must try again—this record even, can be overcome. Both cows are wonders!

Washing Butter.

The only time that all the butter-milk and what it contains can be separated from the butter, and removed without requiring to knead or overwork the butter, is while the butter is yet in a granulated form. If the churning be so far advanced that the butter will be gathered in a large lump, it will have all through the lump more or less butter-milk, in which butter milk there will of course be membranous or caseous or other solid matter. Not only will the grain of the butter be injured by the kneading required to remove this butter-milk, but the kneading will remove little else than the liquid of the butter-milk, leaving much of its solid matter incorporated with the butter. The kneading of the butter tends only to press and solidify all the solid matter of the mass, squeezing out only liquid. Moreover, when the butter-milk is gathered into a lump of butter, any taint or impurity in the butter milk, by closer, longer, even permanent contact with the butter, materially injures the quality of the butter. If on the other hand, the butter milk and all it contains be drawn away before the butter has advanced beyond the granulated form, a more perfect result is secured. By washing the butter at a low temperature with water and brine, the butter-milk and all it contains may be removed from it, and before any taint or impurity has been given to the butter, and the grain be saved from kneading that otherwise would be necessary. In this process butter will be taken out comparatively little affected by defects or taint in cream. Cream may be advanced more or less toward a bitter taste or decay, and the butter because being enclosed in and protected by its pellicle, not yet affected. It is because of this protection that sweet butter may be made from sour cream. Sourness is an advancement toward decay. It is equally true that the cream may be more or less bitter and the butter hidden away in it be yet sweet. When churned the sourness or bitter is in the butter-milk and the butter is yet pure. The butter-milk adds its sour or bitter taste to the butter according to the quantity and time of its presence with the butter. The obvious remedy is the quickest and most complete preparation possible.—*London Provisioner.*

A COW TO BE PROFITABLE.—In reply to the query "what quantity of milk should a cow give to be considered profitable?" a well known dairyman answers 4,500 pounds—2,800 pounds for the first 100 days, 1,000 pounds in the 100 days following, and 700 pounds between the completion at that time and drying off. Professor Brown, of Canada, in reply to a similar question, puts the figures at 4,000 pounds for 200 days, and as much as possible in the subsequent 165 days, and that every 100 pounds of milk should make three and one half pounds of butter. Leaving out of consideration the performances of phenomenal cows accurate records are at hand of native cows with records of from 6,500 to 8,000 pounds in the season, which shows that a steady advance is being made in the yields of our cows. The improvement is very slow, and will continue to be until farmers raise their best heifer calves from their best cows and have the sire with a mother of milking strains to more perfectly establish the milking habit.—*Ex.*

In reply to the query "What quantity of milk should a cow give to be considered profitable?" a well known dairyman answers, says the *Journal of Agriculture*, 4,500 pounds; 2,800 pounds for the first 100 days following, and 700 pounds between the completion of that time and drying off. Prof. Brown of Canada, in reply to a similar question, puts the figures at 4,000 pounds for 200 days, and as much as possible in the subsequent 165 days, and that every 100 pounds of milk should make three and one-half pounds of butter. Leaving out of consideration the performances of phenomenal cows, accurate records are at hand of native cows with a record of from 6,500 to 8,000 pounds in the season, which shows that a steady advance is being made in the yields of our cows. The improvement is very slow, and will continue to be until farmers raise their best heifer calves from their best cows, and have the sire from a mother of milking strains to more perfectly establish the milking habit.—*Drovers' News.*

THE attention of our readers is respectfully called to the advertisement, in another column, of D. M. Ferry & Co., Detroit, Mich. Their beautiful Seed Annual for 1885, sent free to all who apply for it, will be found of practical value to all who desire to purchase seeds true to name.

Cream by Machinery.

Many of the largest and best dairies and creameries in the country have adopted the centrifugal process of separating cream from milk, and are getting much better results than by the old method.

The DeLaval Cream Separator has proved to be the most important and useful dairy invention ever introduced, and Mr Theo. A. Havemeyer, the proprietor of the Mountinside Farm, Mahwah, N. J., who has two of these machines in use, writes:—"The Separators run perfectly. I do not know how I could get along without them." Others write as follows:—

"BATAVIA, Ill., April 21, 1884.

"My De Laval machine is doing good work in consideration of the amount of milk run through. We are putting through about 900 pounds per hour.

"G. B. MOON."

"I am glad to say that the De Laval Cream Separators more than fulfill our expectations. They go away ahead of what we thought they could do. We are running about 2,000 quarts of milk through them daily, and shall soon double the amount. We think the cream, butter and cheese are all improved by the Separator.

"IRAM C. REED."

"GREELY, Col., April 23, 1884

"The Separator works splendid. We think they are as near perfect as can be. HAWKS & Co."

Address for full particulars Jos. H. REALL, President, 32 Park Row, New York.

Brewers' Grains.

N. Y. Agricultural Experiment Station. }
Geneva, N. Y., Nov. 22, 1884 }

At the request of Hon. J. K. Brown, Dairy Commissioner of the State, we undertook a series of experiments upon the effect of feeding brewers grains to milch cows, with special reference to the effect upon the milk when fed in an acid and putrefactive condition.

After a lengthy and interesting trial with two Jersey cows selected for this purpose, the doctor said:

"The conclusion must, therefore, be that so far as this trial indicates, Brewers grains are a healthy and valuable food for milch cows, but that allowing them to become putrid is a mistake, as preventing the full feeding of the animal, and thus being counter to economy. The trial also indicates very strongly that the putridity of the feed was neither injurious to the cows, otherwise than as stated, nor injurious to the quality of the milk for human consumption. E. Lewis Sturtevant, Director."



A STANDARD MAGAZINE,

DEVOTED TO

Agriculture Live Stock and Rural Economy.

Oldest Agricultural Journal in Maryland, and for ten years the only one.

EZRA WHITMAN, Editor and Proprietor.
COL. W. W. W. BOWLE, Associate Editor.

**141 WEST PRATT STREET,
BALTIMORE, MD.**

BALTIMORE, DECEMBER 1st, 1884.

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Any one of the following articles will be given free to subscribers who pay \$1.00 in advance for the MARYLAND FARMER.

- Six (6) papers garden seeds of best variety
- 1 p'k'g Palmers plant and vine protector.
- 1 “ Stonebrakers liniment for man or beast.
- 1 “ “ Horse and cattle powders
- 1 “ “ Chicken powders.
- 1 copy of Kendall's Treatise on the Horse.
- 1 copy of Scribners Lumber and Log Book
- 1 copy of Scribners Grain Tables.
- 1 copy of *Poultry Post* one year post paid.

The above articles need no description of their merits; they range in price from 25 to 50 cents.

Any one sending \$1.50 in advance will receive the MARYLAND FARMER one year and one of the following named valuable books he may select.

The World's Cyclopedia, containing 50,000 references, 1200 illustrations, 800 pages; price \$1.00.

Everybody's Paint Book; price \$1.00.

Pallisers Model Homes; price \$1.00.

Garden and Farm Topics by Peter Henderson, price \$1.50, will be given with the MARYLAND FARMER for \$2.00.

One new Meat Chopper, No. 10, family size, price \$3.00, with the MARYLAND FARMER one year for \$3.25.

One Howe Sewing Machine, new, warranted first class, price \$50.00, will be given for 20 new subscribers to MARYLAND FARMER.

One Young America Corn and Cob Mill, warranted first class in every respect, price \$40.00, will be given for 25 new subscribers to the MARYLAND FARMER one year.

A Word to the Public.

As this number closes the volume for the year 1884, and being the 21st volume, having reached our manhood, we deem it not inappropriate to congratulate our readers and ourselves upon the event which finds us lusty in strength and hope, with increasing patronage and a determination to go on catering for the enlightenment and welfare of our patrons, by keeping well up with improvements of the prosperous age in which we live.

From our first issue we have been able to continue the publication of the MARYLAND FARMER under the same title and control, never missing a month's issue; amid the varied changes of the world and the wonderful strides of progress, we have kept up with the spirit of the times. We then can boldly claim the cheering support of the farmers of the country in whose cause we have so faithfully labored for so long a time, honestly and diligently. Therefore, while we are grateful for past favors, we confidently look to increased interest and support on the part of farmers generally, to enable us to continue such improvements as will reflect the rapid progress of the country and retain the MARYLAND FARMER as heretofore in the front rank and worthy of the great cause it advocates.

We fully endorse the self evident statement that no man can successfully farm unless he avails himself of the labor saving machinery daily invented, reads agricultural literature, utilizes recorded facts and takes advantage of experiments made by himself as well as those made by his intelligent fellow farmers. There is no class of men in this country which has as much sensible reading published for their special use and benefit as the agriculturists, and at so low a price. So that there is no excuse for a farmer not to take one or more agricultural journals. The farmer should not

only subscribe for, but read and study such journals.

Since the establishment of the MARYLAND FARMER 21 years ago, and we flatter ourselves it has had its full share in bringing about such results, the whole country has grown in wealth and power by an improved agriculture, wonderful inventions to save labor and diminish time and space. Enterprising men have greatly revolutionized for the better all classes of our domestic animals by importing the best breeds of stock, poultry, &c., from foreign lands, and by means of commerce established a thorough interchange of products. It has been the province of our Journal to keep its readers advised of all such important measures by which the farm could be advantaged, and such will be its aim also in the future.

Our corps of able correspondents is yearly increasing, and thus we can monthly furnish our subscribers with sound, practical sentiments and facts pertaining to agricultural pursuits in all its branches lucidly set forth by intelligent experiences.

Seeing the advantages we offer, advertisers crowd our advertising columns in setting forth what they have for sale for the information of our host of readers, and yet our subscribers have always each month thirty two pages, and often more, of solid, practical reading matter, although often our advertisements take up fifty or sixty pages. In conclusion, we would say to both subscribers and advertisers, we shall continue in future as in the past to endeavor to please both classes, and as far as possible make the MARYLAND FARMER useful to the one, and indispensable to the other, so that each one shall claim it as "*my paper.*"

The "MARYLAND FARMER" is furnished for 12 months with a valuable premium, for only \$1.00 if paid in advance. Subscriptions should begin with the January number, but may be made for a year at any time.

The Recent Cattlemen's Convention at the West.

The statement that the cattle of this country are valued at \$1 500,464,609—all of which is threatened with extermination, in whole or in part, from the prevalence of contagious diseases which are not indigenuous but have been imported into this country—is sufficient reason for the cattle-men of the country to assemble and form associations to demand of Congress appropriate legislation for the extermination of such diseases. Two such conventions were held last week—one at Chicago and the other at St. Louis—at which cattlemen from all over the country assembled. At the St. Louis convention alone there were 1200 accredited delegates, every State and Territory being represented. At each of these conventions permanent associations were formed, and each passed resolutions couched in the strongest language demanding of Congress the desired legislation.

The bases of membership in the association at Chicago, is associations—*i. e.* every cattle breeding society is entitled to membership and a representation in each annual convention of one delegate to each 20 members in the association; while the association formed at St. Louis is based on individual membership, all of whom are entitled to seats in the convention. The former excludes commission men, brokers and stock-yard associations; while the latter admits them,—we think the former plan the better.

There were various other matters before these vast assemblages of vital interest to the ranchmen which can scarcely be understood or appreciated by our Eastern breeders; for instance, there is shipped annually from Texas 500,000 head of yearlings—but from the great danger from Texas fever from these cattle before the season of frost, many of our States and Territories have passed laws quarantining against Texas

animals, consequently not to be entirely boxed up as it were, the Texas men went to the St. Louis convention determined to pass resolutions demanding of Congress the setting apart of sufficient public land to form a "trail" or "drive" from the northern Texan frontier to the British possessions, which shall be six miles wide and doubly fenced, through which cattle may be driven from the breeding grounds of Texas to the maturing and fattening grounds of the north. This measure seems to have so many elements of justice that it passed by almost unanimous consent.

Another great measure was demanded by the States of Colorado and Nebraska and others that the government should lease for a nominal rental its arid infertile lands to ranchmen for grazing purposes. This is a measure that it seems to us will be necessary in the near future. Many of the ranchmen admit that heretofore they have been trespassers on the public domain, and that all their rights or titles depended on first occupancy. As the country is filling up so rapidly, these trespassers on Government lands are beginning to trespass on each other, and numerous collisions have already taken place, and bloodshed is imminent should the Government not give them some evidence of a possessory title the one against the other. This measure was opposed by some as being in the interest of large, and in many cases, foreign corporations, which was stoutly denied by others who claimed it was in the interest of the poorer settlers who are living on the 160 acre tracts of pre-empted lands. This passed by a close vote, and we confess ourselves at a loss to determine which was in the right. One thing seemed clear that our grazing lands are nearly if not quite occupied and fully stocked, and that should immigration not diminish, we shall soon find ourselves an over-populated country with no room to expand.

Other matters of interest to our Western

friends were passed affecting transportation both as to rates and discriminations by R. R. corporations, and as to the character of cars for cattle shipments.

The president of the convention was Gov. Routt of Colorado; first vice-president Gen. N. M. Curtis of New York, with a vice president for each State and Territory. Our own State was represented by Mr. T. Alexander Seth—the secretary of the Maryland Breeders' Association—who was made the vice-president for Maryland, and Mr. J. L. McAtee, assistant secretary.

The manner in which the citizens of St. Louis entertained the members of the convention is worthy of emulation by the business men of our city. The St. Louis merchants not only paid all the expenses of the convention but provided a series of entertainments which were truly magnificent;—such as parades, fireworks, concerts and a superb banquet, also expensive *souvenirs* for each member, worthy to take place in any collection of bric a-brac.

We hope that our members of Congress will give heed to the recommendations of these men, who as a body of men, represented more wealth and intelligence than any assembly of its size we ever witnessed, and give at least protection against imported diseases. The agricultural and cattle raising portion of the country have submitted to enormous taxation to furnish protection to insignificant industries compared to that of our great cattle industry. and it is time they were getting some return. If it is objected that this should be done by States and not by Congress, we say it must be done by uniform laws which cannot be obtained in all the States, and that if there is authority in the Constitution for Congress to appropriate money and appoint a National Board of Health to co-operate with the States to prevent importation of contagious diseases affecting man—such as yellow fever—the same authority will justify co-operation with the States in the

preservation of the health of our animals, which as meat, butter, cheese or milk, contribute so much to the food supply, and on whose healthy condition depends in a great measure the preservation of the public health.

Holstein Cattle Portraits.

We have received of Messrs Smiths & Powell, portraits of some of their famous Holstein cattle, drawn by the gifted pencil of Cecil Palmer, the popular animal painter of America. The one, is "A group from the Aaggie family of Holsteins, comprising seven animals of this renowned family; to wit, Neptune, Aaggie, Aaggie Rosa, Aaggie May, Aaggie Beauty and Aaggie Kathleen, with the bull calf "Horace" in the centre. Horace is by Neptune and out of Aaggie May.

The other picture is a life-like portrait of the famous bull, Netherland Prince, the present head of the lake-side herd. We have shown our appreciation of these gifts by having them framed and hung upon the walls of our office for its further useful adornment.

Meat Chopper.

Manufactured by the Enterprise Manufacturing Co., Philadelphia, Pa. We used these choppers last season and pronounced them *good*; a few days ago we received one of this year's make which we now pronounce *perfection*. The cook in my kitchen has it in daily use for cutting meats, vegetables, &c. Price \$3 00

Cattlemen's Convention.

Having accepted the appointment as delegate to the National Convention of Cattle-men we made all our arrangements to attend and it was therefore a great disappointment to be kept home by sickness. We were glad however to see that our fellow citizen T. A. Seth Esq., was present as a delegate from Maryland and defended the rights of Eastern breeders in regard to Pleura-Pneumonia.

Japanese Persimmon.

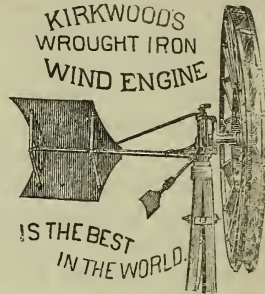
Mr. L. R. Budd of Henrietta, Clay Co., Texas, sent us a small box containing samples of this delicious fruit in a semi-dried state, of the Ongaloo, or *date*, Kaki variety. We were thus allowed to test by taste this fruit, and to conceive how delicious it must be in a fresh ripe condition. Mr. B. is entitled to and received our thanks. He says in his note to us, "*if any readers of Maryland Farmer are interested I will send them a sample free on receipt of four cents to pay postage on same.*" We shall have more to say in future about this Japan fruit in which we have heretofore felt great interest and still continue so to do.

A BIG ICE COMPANY.—The two largest ice dealers in the city, Messrs, Cochran & Co. and Oler & Co., consolidated their business yesterday by obtaining an act of incorporation under the name of the Cochran-Oler Ice Company of Baltimore City, with the following officers as incorporators: William H. Oler, president; Woodward Abrahams, vice president; Henry H. Head, treasurer; Willy W. Abrahams, secretary, James E. Cochran, general superintendent; Wesley M. Oler, manager, and Clarence Cochran, assistant treasurer. The corporation is formed for cutting, storing, packing, manufacturing and selling ice. The capital stock of the company is \$600,000 in 6,000 shares of \$100 each.

THE HOG CHOLERA IN ST. MARY'S COUNTY—Cholera is still creating great havoc among the hogs in the lower part of St. Mary's county. It was thought that the advent of cold weather would check it to a considerable extent, but Capt. Jones, of the steamer Theodore Weems, stated the other day that it is growing worse. Many farmers have lost all their hogs. The disease seems to be making a pretty clean sweep down there. It is causing very serious losses to the people.

The Kirkwood Iron Wind Engine.

This wind engine is manufactured and sold by R. G. Kirkwood, proprietor and patentee, at Ellicott City, Md. It is pronounced by Mr. Cruse, the representative of Mast, Foos & Co., Springfield, Ohio, who make a wind engine, as the best slat engine made in the world. It is made wholly of iron and steel on purely scientific princi-



ples. It is the highest running engine on the grounds. It runs steadier, and is as true in motion as a clock. The engine is the latest invented and is something new to our people, but it will no doubt be the future wind mill of the world. Parties who want a wind engine can not fail to be pleased with the Kirkwood Patent Iron and Steel Engine. For terms and particulars, address R. G. Kirkwood, proprietor and patentee, Ellicott City, Md.

Besides the many premiums taken at the different State Fairs where it has been exhibited, it gained the highest award—a medal—at the late Southern Exhibition held at Louisville, Ky., as the best wind engine. We wish it great success.

THE AMERICAN COTSWOLD ASSOCIATION.—This association did Maryland the honor to select our friend Mr. E. B. Emory as president at the annual meeting of that organization, held at Chicago, Ill., some days ago. Mr. Emory was also chosen a member of the board of directors. Poplar Grove, Mr. Emory's, handsome farm on Chester river, has long been noted for its fine flock of Cotswolds as well as for its fast trotting horses and superior Short-horn cattle.

THE POULTRY-HOUSE.

Ten Thousand Chickens — Horse Flesh For Food.

The owner of a large chicken farm gives the Dublin *Farmers' Gazette* some interesting particulars about his farm and methods. He has twenty five acres and ten thousand fowls. The buildings are kept perfectly clean, and are well ventilated. The yard is divided by wide wire fences containing a certain number of fowls classed according to their ages. Native breeds are preferred to foreign. Every good hen, it is reckoned, brings 15s profit a year, deducting failures. After four years' laying the hens are fattened in three weeks, and are fit for the market. The young chickens are obtained by artificial hatching. The incubators are very simple. They consist of boxes like nests, placed in rows, heated by steam, kept at a regular temperature. The eggs are covered up from the light. As soon as the chick escapes from its shell it is removed to another room. About half the chicks hatched are males. Animal food is used to an extent that will surprise most poultry raisers. I feed, says the correspondent, a large number of fowls while young principally upon boiled horse flesh, diminishing the quantity gradually as the time for fattening approaches, and leaving it off altogether during the last three or four weeks, when I fatten them upon potatoes, Indian meal, pollard and other grain. The flesh is quite white, remarkably firm, and of excellent flavor. If the animal food be continued too long the birds suffer. They contract disease, and the quills of their feathers become charged with blood. They must be supplied with abundance of water and kept scrupulously clean.

Horse flesh constitutes the principal part of their nourishment. The horses are bought when alive, but unfit for service. They are killed on the premises in slaughter houses constructed for the purpose. The blood is carefully collected and sold to chemical manufacturers at a good price. The skin is sold to the tanners. The head and hoofs go to make Prussian blue, the large bones are made into buttons, the small ones are ground for manure, the marrow is bought by perfumers, who sell

it for bear's grease. Nothing is lost. Economy is so well managed that the flesh costs nothing; the cost of the horse is covered by the sale of the offal. The flesh cut from the bones is cooked in immense boilers, chopped, when cold, in a sausage machine. Before given to fowls it is seasoned with salt and pepper, which keeps it sweet and wholesome, and contributes to the health of the birds. Experience has proved that for poultry, as well as most other birds, a vegetable nutriment is insufficient. The reason they do not lay in winter is that they can not obtain the worms and insects necessary to maintain their health and strength. By giving the birds meat they can be made to lay nearly the whole year.

Capons.

He who has never helped to eat one has missed a treat, for a well-fattened capon, served on the table "done to a turn," is a thing not to be lightly spoken of. Capons always bring a considerable advance per pound over the price obtained for even the choicest poultry that has not undergone the process of caponizing, which, added to the increased weight that a capon attains, should surely be a sufficient inducement for more breeders to undertake caponizing. When the art is properly understood (and it is not difficult at all to learn), it is very little trouble to caponize—not so much trouble in fact as to perform the same operation on quadrupeds. The first thing to do is to get a set of good instruments, which we supply with full printed directions accompanying them, and then a *dead* cockerel, and operate on him and others of the same kind until you know just where to make the cut and what to remove. You can then take up a live subject. If it does not die within a few minutes after the operation it may be set down that it will live. By caponizing your surplus and poorly-marked cockerels you can realize far more than by selling them in the usual way.—*Poultry World*.

CATARRH CURED—A clergyman, after suffering a number of years from that loathsome disease, Catarrh, after trying every known remedy without success, at last found a prescription which completely cured and saved him from death. Any sufferer from this dreadful disease sending a self addressed stamped envelope to Dr. J. A. Lawrence, 199 Dean St., Brooklyn, N. Y., will receive the recipe free of charge.

Embden Geese.

Among our most valuable breeds of geese the Embden is one of our best. Indeed, the rivalry between it and the Toulouse is so close that many contend in points of beauty and utility it is equal to the Toulouse. The Embden is uniformly pure white, has prominent blue eyes, flesh-colored beak, bright orange legs, remarkably strong in the neck, and its feathers tend to curl from the shoulders to the head. They are very hardy and well adapted to this climate. Their flesh is highly esteemed by epicures. It does not partake of that strong taste noticeable in common geese, it is as tender and juicy when properly cooked as that of our best wild and aquatic fowls, and is less liable to shrink in the process of cooking. The Embden originated in a town of that name in Hanover, adjoining Holland, a region including Olenburg and Saxony, long noted for the quality and production of geese. Embden geese attain large size, in some instances a pair will weigh fifty pounds, but the average weight, when in good condition, is about forty pounds per pair. They are good layers, taking into consideration their size; but, like the Toulouse, are poor sitters, owing to their weight and cumbrous movements. They are highly prized by breeders, not alone for their size or the delicacy and richness of their flesh, but also for the beauty of their blossomy white plumage. A large pond or extent of water is not absolutely necessary for the Embden geese, though a pond or stream near by would be very advantageous toward improving their plumage and affording them agreeable exercise. Breeders most generally set their eggs under hens, and give them the same care and food as other valuable geese. The goslings, though strong and hardy when hatched, are somewhat clumsy; and should be kept within a low inclosure where there are no weeds nor long grass to bother them until they are a few weeks old.—*Poultry Monthly*.

Toulouse Geese.

We have no variety of geese that equals the Toulouse in size and weight, says the *American Poultry Journal*. The Embden, in many cases attains nearly the same weight but to take the average flocks of Toulouse, either as stock birds, attained

for market or exhibition purposes, they are the largest and heaviest of all.

The Toulouse is among the Anser species—what the Brahma is among the gallinaceous fowls. Domestication, selection, proper care and feeding have brought about greater development in size and weight, with marked improvement in other points which make all of our thoroughbred fowls more valuable to the fancier and to the market poulterer.

The Toulouse is distinguished from the common gray goose by its greater size and weight, by its plumage on the breast, and the body light gray, back dark gray, neck darker gray, wings and belly shading off to white in the best specimens, with little white actually visible only on the lower and posterior parts. They are also distinguished by their bill being stout and reddish flesh color, legs and feet deep orange inclined to red, carriage erect, tall and dignified by the singular development of the abdominal pouch or folds of flesh from the neck to the belly, nearly touching the ground.

The Toulouse, by careful management and good feeding, attains to great weight. It is quite common to see them weigh forty to forty five pounds per pair, and specimens have tipped the scales at sixty pounds per pair. They are hardy, easily kept within an enclosure, are good layers and their flesh is tender and well flavored. They are quite rare in this country yet, and are seldom seen outside the fancier and amateur's yards. They command high prices where their valuable qualities are known, and the young birds of good strains, in the fall frequently sell for twenty-five dollars.

HOW TO MAKE HENS LAY.—J. T. DURANT, Lower Cabot, Vt., who raises a good many Brown Leghorns, keeps them laying satisfactorily by feeding wheat as the only grain feed. He gives a good deal of meat of some kind, believing that meat makes the best shell material of any food. Mr. Durant says: "They want warm, fresh water every day and a good place for dusting. Then keep a good supply of bone meal, broken burned bone, gravel, oyster shells crushed, and laying boxes where they can hide. The more attention you can give them the better it pays."

Fowls on the farm.

I dont know that I want to stir up any of the specialty men, but I will say that every farmer ought to raise chickens and eggs enough for home consumption. Fowls on a farm do pay their way and more too, even when left to shift pretty much for themselves; and when well cared for they pay a larger profit in proportion to labor and capital invested than any other live stock on the farm. A farm flock of 100 hens will, if rightly managed, lay eggs enough in a year to bring their owner a clear profit of \$1 to \$1.50 per head, according to locality, and then the old fowls when fattened for market will bring enough to buy the same number of pullets to take their places. In reckoning the cost of keeping a flock of fowls most farmers do not take the value of poultry manure into account, but it is quite an item and should not be lost track of. In any part of the country where land requires manure in order to produce paying crops, the manure from a flock of fowls will, if saved in good shape, pay for all the care bestowed on them. Among my farmer acquaintances there is one man who makes a specialty of growing vegetables for the early market, but the specialty buisness does not keep him from keeping a flock of 60 hens and raising one or two hundred chickens each year. In talking upon the subject this man said: "We want chickens and eggs for our own table, and I find that I can raise them cheaper than I can buy. Poultry manure is a valuable fertilizer, quite as valuable as any of the commercial fertilizers, and I consider that it pays fully one third of the entire cost of keeping my flock."—*Fanny Field in Ohio Farmer.*

For the Maryland Farmer.

Things the Farmer Should Avoid.

Probably to enumerate the many things that the farmer should avoid, would require a volume and the work would still remain incomplete, so the purpose of this article will be simply to mention a few of the things to be avoided that present themselves to the consideration of all. The farmer is to a certain extent controlled by unavoidable and to him uncontrollable conditions, but this should not deter him from using due care in all his farming operations.

One very important matter that the farmer should have constantly in mind, is to perform all work that is possible in its season; it should be a standing rule to "put not off until tomorrow what can be performed today." We can call to mind the case of a farmer whose ideas of all kinds of work are of a high order and yet is deficient in that important consideration, and as a consequence he is invariably behind in his work so far as its appropriate season is concerned. He is what might be termed always behind; not on account of laziness, but for the reason that he does not attend to his work at its proper season. Thus he will be attending to other work when he should be planting his crops, and the consequence is that when others are ready to commence their weeding, this farmer is at work at planting, and when his grass is fit to cut he is at work doing his hoeing, and as a consequence his haying is prolonged into the fall and his crop largely worthless. Nor is that all; the harvesting of his crops is proportionately delayed, and it is nothing uncommon for his potatoes to get frozen in, and his corn to be caught by early snows whereby his husking is often prolonged far into winter.

Every farmer should avoid this so far as possible for the reason first that help will accomplish much more work if performed at its appropriate season that when out of season; and for another reason that many crops suffer a deterioration in value if the period of their harvest is considerably delayed. This is especially true in the case of the hay crop; it is now a pretty conclusively settled point that from the period of flowering of most grasses there is a gradual deterioration of feeding value if allowed to stand without harvesting, and this is confirmed by the use of such hay in con-

RANCID BUTTER.—Rancidity of butter is caused by a chemical change of the butyric acid of the butter into other acids of different character. These acids are volatile, and give off their scent very readily, hence the strong scent of bad butter. They may be partly removed by washing the butter in water in which some salt and saltpeter have been dissolved, and then in clear water, and then by repacking with a mixture of six ounces of salt, four ounces of white sugar and one ounce of saltpeter, finely powdered, to six pounds of butter.

nection with that which is cut and cured at the appropriate time.

If crops are worth growing at all, their value depends upon their being harvested at the proper time, which is before they commence deterioration.

So the farmer should be careful and avoid being so backward in his work as to bring about unseasonable harvesting. If such a course is a result of too extensive planting then that too should be avoided. No farmer should undertake more than he can accomplish in its appropriate season, because a diminishing in value of crops may as well be effected in quantity as in a reduction of quality.

Farmers should attend to all the details of their business as closely and carefully as the merchant, and when he does that, and carefully scrutinizes every process with a view to its profit, he will be more directly upon the road to success, and will have less occasion to study the things which he should avoid.

WM. H. YEOMANS.

For the Maryland Farmer.

Feeding Ensilage.

EZRA WHITMAN.—*Dear Sir:*—Feeling assured the past dry season has led many if not all of your readers, which we give credit to as being level-headed farmers, studying where the dollars and cents lie in the matter of profit and loss. Now is it not well for us all to say what advantage would it have been to me to have used ensilage all through this dry season when milk has been scarce? Can we not trace the lack of it the need of luscious green pasture and those nourishments which are the material for making milk. I know a great many readers on the subject say, well scientist tell us you have destroyed that portion of the food which is the original foundation of producing the milk. Well science is good in its place, but common sense practice has proved that if you feed one cow twice a day with ensilage, and another dry feed *value in proportion*, you will find (both cows being equal for yielding before the experiment is begun) that the benefit of returns is largely in favor of your ensilage fed cow, and the milk or butter fully equal in quality and odor for any table. First be sure you *are right* then go ahead. Yours truly,

JOSEPH COBB, Supt. Montebello Farm.

Live Stock Register.

A Point for the Pig.

Prof. J. W. Sanborn, of the Missouri State Agricultural college, is constantly making experiments in feeding animals, and gives the public the result as far as determined, in the form of bulletins. Bulletin No. 10 shows the value of shipstuff as compared with corn and corn meal for feeding pigs. His experiments show that although corn meal is a better food than whole corn for pigs, yet when the cost of carrying to mill and paying toll is reckoned in there is very little if any gain to the western farmer from grinding his corn. He also finds that shipstuff (the waste of the flouring mill) is worth far more for pig food than most western farmers have been willing to believe. In a late trial about ninety-four pounds of shipstuff gave the same gain in growth that was made from 100 pounds of corn meal, and the Professor says that this accords with the experiments made by him for the past six years. He advises western farmers to feed more of their wheat wastes, instead of sending it off to eastern feeders, who find it one of the cheapest forms in which to purchase fertility for their farms.

The professor further finds that corn fed to steers will not produce more than half the meat that it will when fed to pigs. But as our people are not grease eaters, we must learn to feed our swine in a way that will give more muscle and less lard. By exposing sections of the carcasses of the pigs fed upon corn and upon shipstuff, he found that the latter showed a very much better quality of meat. The conclusion to be drawn is that a mixture of corn or corn meal and wheat wastes is far better for pig feeding than corn or corn meal alone, the exclusive use of which is detrimental to a vigorous and healthy muscular development, producing a pig easily subject to disease, distasteful to our patrons and more costly than is necessary. We might add to this that another experimenter has found that the same amount of feed given to poultry will produce twice as much meat and eggs in weight as if given to swine. This would make poultry four times more profitable as consumers of grain than steers.—*New England Farmer.*

GOOD horses are bringing better prices in all parts of the country than they have commanded since the war, and poor horses were never so unsalable as compared with the best as they are to-day. A farmer who breeds a good mare to a good horse will have a sure and profitable market for his colt. But it will not pay to bother with inferior stock.—*Weekly Press.*

NUMBER OF SHEEP IN THE WORLD:
—The latest information and estimates place the number of sheep in the world as follows: Australia, ninety millions; South America, seventy five millions; United States fifty three millions; Russia, forty eight millions; Germany, thirty millions; United Kingdom, twenty seven millions; France, twenty four millions; Austria, Hungary, twenty millions; Spain, eighteen millions; South Africa, eleven millions; Italy, seven millions; Canada, four millions; Norway, Sweden, Portugal and Greece, each four millions—a grand total of four hundred and fifteen millions.

IN Colorado alone there are on the ranges to day no less than 20 000 bulls, the price of which ranges from \$40 to \$500 each, and not a broad-horn or Texan is allowed to range there, owing to a law preventing anything but high grade or full blood males from ranging. It requires no less than 5,000 each year to keep up the supply; therefore, Texas and Montana require each as many as Colorado, while Western Nebraska, Wyoming, Idaho and Utah require one half as many each, making the yearly consumption not less than 25,000 head of bulls, worth, at the low estimate of \$50 each, \$1,250,000.

VALUE OF IMPROVED STOCK.—Farmers should be informed of the real actual value of the improved stock exhibited at fairs. A difference in the yield of milk of four quarts a day, even at 2 cents a quart, is equal to \$24 a year, which is the interest at 6 per cent. on \$400. A difference of 100 pounds of butter in a year is equal to the same amount. With ten cows this counts up pretty fast. Pure bred Ayrshire or Jersey cows will easily make this difference in the value of the yearly product. As there is no extra cost for keeping, the increase is all profit.

THE PROFITS OF CATTLE RAISING.—Two cattle kings of the coast, Messrs. Miller and Lux, are rated at \$8,000,000 to \$10,000,000, and were poor men 20 years ago. They have about 90,000 head of cattle and 115,000 head of sheep, of which latter they kill 6,000 per month. They own an irrigating canal worth \$1,000,000, fences 300 miles in length—a fortune in itself—in California 600,000 acres of land, in Nebraska 10,000 acres and 15,000 acres of alfalfa grass.—*New Orleans Picayune.*

SHEEP RAISING.—The market is not overstocked with wool yet, despite all that may be said to that effect, as we paid over \$40,000,000 for foreign wool last year. There is a demand for wool, and as long as we do not produce enough for our own use sheep-raising will result in profit.

THE CLEVELANDS.—Cleveland bay horses are a breed which originated in Yorkshire, England, taking their name from the district of Cleveland. They are heavier than the thoroughbred, but not as massive as the Clydesdale or Percheron. For carriage purposes they are excellent, possessing great strength with moderate speed. For horses of all work they are considered superior to many other crosses that have been produced, for although a pure breed, being long established, they are very similar in form to the produce of heavy mares when mated with thoroughbred sires.

Poultry Shows for 1884-85.

Baltimore Poultry and Pigeon Club, Thomas W. Hooper, Secretary, 37 Post Office Avenue, Baltimore, Md. January 13 to 17, 1885.

Southern Massachusetts Poultry Association, Taunton, Mass. T. J. Eddy, Secretary. December 16-20, 1884.

Ohio State Poultry and Pigeon Breeders' Association. W. A. Jeffrey, Secretary, Springfield. December 17-23, 1884.

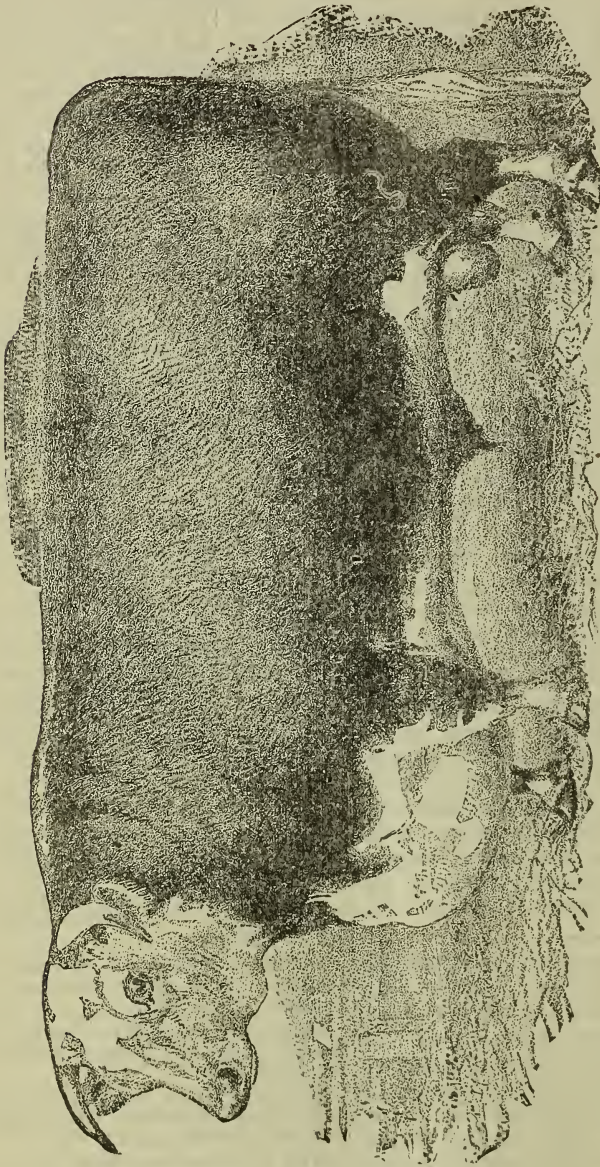
Worcester County West Poultry Association, Spencer, Mass. P. Emerson, Secretary, December 23-24, 1884.

Meriden Poultry Association, Connecticut. Joshua Shute, Secretary. December 30 and 31, 1884, and January 1 and 2, 1885.

New York Fanciers' Club, New York City. Chas. R. Harker, Secretary. January, 1885.

Central Massachusetts Poultry Club, Worcester. H. A. Jones, Secretary. January, 5-7, 1885.

World's Fair, Poultry Department, New Orleans, La. B. N. Pierce, special commissioner, Indianapolis. January 15 to February 15, 1885.



HEREFORD BULL "LORD WILTON" 4057

Bred by W. TUDOR, Adforton, Eng. Dropped August 30, 1873.

Sold at the J. T. CARWARDINE Sale, August 29th, 1884, for a fraction less than \$30,000.00.

Bought by Mr H VAUGHAN, Indiana, U. S. A.

Hereford Bull "Lord Wilton."

On the foregoing page we give our readers a life picture of the famous Hereford bull "Lord Wilton," whose purity of blood, size, form, and other qualities, had been so singularly imparted to a long list of descendants, that his popularity became so great with English breeders at the sale of the late Mr. Carwardine, that the American buyer had to pay at auction 3,800 guineas for him. Thus "Lord Wilton," wanting one day of being *eleven* years old, sold for nearly \$20,000, besides the expenses of a trip across the Atlantic, that American breeders of Herefords might be benefitted by his future services. This is beyond all price ever read of for a bull of any breed, *eleven* years old! Our readers have the correct portraiture of the most celebrated bull in the world.

Lord Wilton was bred by Mr. W. Tudge Adforton, Ludlow, Eng., August 30, 1873, as a yearling and a two-year-old in the hands of Mr. Tudge he was a winner at the Royal and Bath and West of England Show. He was afterwards sold, having a very good character, but no special reputation beyond an ordinary average of the Hereford bulls in England. Mr. Tudge was one of the leading Hereford breeders of England for nearly half a century. In 1879 or '80 he was bought by T. J. Cardarine, and the following year Mr. Lewis Loyd exhibited some of his stock at the Smithfield Show where they were winners of some of the most important prizes. Mr. Cardarine had also exhibited Lord Wilton and his stock at the leading shows at England, where for the last three or four years they have won in their classes and of challenge prizes to an extent that it has put Lord Wilton in the lead among the Hereford breeders in England and this country.

The character he has made during these years, has created a large demand for his stock. Hence the price at which he sold. These prices are not based upon any special

line of breeding, but is due entirely to the character of Lord Wilton and the Lord Wilton stock.

The *Mark Lane Express* thus talks of this bull and Herefords in general:

"He is descended from some of the most successful sires which the Hereford breed of cattle has produced, namely, Sir Roger (4133), by Sir Thomas (2228), by Sir Benjamin (1387); and the blood of his dam traces to the stock of St. David (349), the sire of Sir Benjamin (1387). However, the money paid for this bull, and that paid for the Grove 3rd some little time since, was not for pedigree, but for merit which has proved capable of being transmitted to offspring, and the same principal has underlain all the increase of value which has accrued to the Hereford breed of cattle. Step by step their values have been getting higher, whilst those of pure-bred Shorthorns have been getting rapidly lower. Nor is the cause at all difficult to understand. The Shorthorn men have been pursuing a policy the empty worthlessness of which has come to be fully understood, and in the collapse which has followed, as a matter of course, values of really good and useful stock have been dragged down with those which rested on an artificial, worthless, and pernicious basis. The extraordinary prices paid some years ago for Shorthorns were not given for any recorded or tangible merit, but for mere fancy pedigrees, and now that the delusion is over, some slight idea is beginning to be formed of the mischief it has worked. There is nothing whatever in common between the accession in values which has accrued to the Herefords and that which accrued some years ago to the Shorthorns, and if the Shorthorn breeders mean to retrieve lost ground they will have to do something akin to burning their Herd Book and making a fresh start—on a clean slate. This would necessitate an equally drastic reform in our show-yard system, which needs to be remodelled and reorganized from beginning to end."

REMEDY FOR WORMS IN LIVE STOCK.—It is said that the simplest remedy for worms in cattle, sheep and hogs is turpentine mixed with a little feed or given in linseed oil or gruel; two ounces for a cow and one-fourth or less for smaller animals.

Aberdeen-Angus Cattle.

That the Aberdeen-Angus breed has a brilliant future before it in America and at home, I have not the slightest doubt. At the Centenary Show of the Highland and Agricultural Society at Edinburgh, this year, it formed the leading feature of the bovine classes, excelling in merit the Short-horns, which, on this occasion, made an unusually grand display, unquestionably the best it has ever done in Scotland. On this point, I will venture to make a quotation from an authority whose knowledge on the subject will not be questioned:

"The exceptionally fine display of Polled Aberdeen-Angus cattle has been the subject of general comment during the show. This breed has made rapid strides during the past ten years, and no one who has seen the Polled collection at Edinburgh this week would dispute its claim to the possession of very great excellence. These cattle show no lack of size, and, while most of them have been highly fed, their levelness of flesh, fineness of quality, and freshness in gait, are quite remarkable. The Polled cow class is, in regard to average merit and numbers, one of the best classes of live stock we have ever seen in any British show yard. We do not think it contains any animal equal in merit to Mr. Hutchinson's grand Short-horn cow Lady Pamela, or to some Polled cows exhibited in recent years, the list of ten or twelve, however which were drawn out by the judges for the final tussle, formed an array of animal perfection such as we have rarely seen."

A breed of which this can be written, by one who holds the scales evenly, need have no fear as to the future, and with careful management, and, above all, *absence of Speculation*, Aberdeen-Angus cattle are bound to make their way, both in the United Kingdom and in America.—*Cor. National Live-Stock Journal.*

FEEDING PIGS.

The food of pigs till five or six weeks old must be chiefly the milk of the dam, and some good breeders keep them on the dam till eight weeks old. The dam must be well fed, and fed for the largest milk secretion. The amount of milk she yields will have a decided influence upon the favorable start of the pigs. If a dairy is kept

upon the farm, then, after two weeks old, the pigs should be taught to drink skimmed milk, and they should have this, at first, sweet and warmed up to blood heat, and all they want of it. When they are over three weeks old, a little middlings should be added to the skimmed milk, and they will learn to eat this food, that must be used at weaning time. No corn meal should be given to pigs under two or three months old. Some think a little shelled corn may profitably be given to young pigs, but they are better without it. It is not fat that you want to put on to the young pig, but you want to grow the muscles and bones—produce a rangy frame. There is plenty of fat in middlings, and middlings is a cooling food, with nitrogen to grow the muscles, and phosphate of lime to grow the bones; besides, middlings ought to be as cheap as corn, especially in Kansas, where so much wheat is grown. When the pigs are ready to wean, they will be the better for a little linseed oil meal, mixed with the middlings—say one pound to five pigs per day—and if it is not easy to get the oil meal, and flaxseed is raised near, buy a few bushels of that, and boil it in six times its bulk of water, and it will form a thin gelatinous substance, which can be mixed with other food. Not more than one pound of the seed should be given to six pigs. They soon become very fond of it. A little of this boiled flaxseed is, perhaps, the best preventive of disease, and at the same time it assists in the digestion of other food.—*National Live-Stock Journal.*

SWINE breeders have not sufficiently borne in mind the variation in the amount of lean meat found in the carcasses of different hogs. The Berkshire is universally credited with having more lean than any other breed, but they as well as other classes vary in this regard. By closely scanning the cut up carcasses, giving preference to certain families showing liberal presence of muscular substances, these to be used as breeders, the relative quantity of lean could be increased.

PAINT YOUR BARN.—It is not necessary to employ a professional painter. "Everybody's Paint Book," a new work just published, will tell you how to mix the paint for this purpose and how to apply it. See advertisement in this number.

WE deeply regret the death of a young and promising journalist of Maryland, Mr. Luther D. Colton, editor of the *Maryland Republican* and eldest son of the Hon. George Colton. In the death of this gentleman his distinguished father must have received a sad blow, after so many years of unusual intimacy with his son, not only in his social and business relations but as his almost constant companion at home and abroad—on land and water—in America, Europe and Asia—wherever their lots have been cast—and to the father we offer our fraternal condolence and individual sympathy in this dark hour of his affliction.

Publications Received.

LEFFEL'S HOUSE PLANS.—Is a valuable book for all who design building a cottage, palace or ordinary dwelling house. It contains elevations, plans and descriptions of houses costing from \$500 to \$3,000, and adapted to families having good taste and moderate means. It also includes the six prize plans in "The Mechanical New" competition. Published by J. Leffel & Co., 110 Liberty Street, New York.

"**POULTRY FOR PROFIT,**" being No. 1 of The Poultry Keeper Series, by P. H. Jacobs; W. V. R. Powis, publisher, Chicago. Of late there has been a great deal written on the subject of poultry, but usually the writers have been theoretical. In "Poultry for Profit," you have the practical and ripe experience of a gentleman who has spent thirty years in the poultry yard. This work is intended more for beginners in poultry raising than for those who have made this industry a life study. We however commend it to all, for it is full of practical information.

"**THE FARM RECORD AND ACCOUNT BOOK,**" by J. D. Affleck. Published by C. F. Demmer, New Haven, Conn. This is the most elaborate, complete and satisfactory farm record and account book suitable to farmers generally and indispensable to the advanced farmer, we ever saw.

"**HOW THE FARM PAYS,**" by Wm. Crozier and Peter Henderson, of New York city. It is

worthy of the source from whence it comes. There are perhaps no two more practical and educated men in this country than the authors of this excellent book, upon all subjects appertaining to the farm, garden, flower-garden, &c. They each have a national reputation, and in this work have well sustained that reputation. It is written in the conversational style of questions and answers, and is full of all sorts of practical information about which the rural farmer may have occasion to enquire. It is well illustrated and handsomely made up in all its parts, therefore we deem it worthy of a place in the library of every reading and intelligent ruralist in the land.

EDWIN ALDEN & BROS.' AMERICAN NEWSPAPER CATALOGUE FOR 1884.—We have perforce of a variety of obstacles neglected heretofore to notice this well arranged and printed eighth compendium of the location and title of the newspapers and magazines published in the United States and the Canadas, besides a great variety of facts and statistics of great value to all classes of people, and arranged admirably for the convenience of advertisers. It is a work of much care and thought, by which business men of all sorts can be much benefitted by purchasing. The Messrs Alden evidently keep up with the advance of the age, and deserve for their enterprise and labor the patronage of the advertising business men of the country.

THE BEST FOR BUTTER—There is but one best color for butter, and that is Wells, Richardson & Co.'s Improved Butter Color, no candid investigator doubts. It is the best butter color in the world; is free from sediment or impurity, always ready for instant use, and it imparts to butter that rich dandelion yellow, without a tinge of red, which is the acme of desirability to any butter color.

Domestic Recipes.

RECIPE FOR CURING MEAT.—As the season has arrived when curing meat is in order, we republish, as of old our famous recipe for curing beef, pork, mutton, hams, etc., as follows: To one gallon of water. Take 1½ lbs. of salt, ½ lb sugar, ¼ oz. saltpetre, ½ oz. potash.

In this ratio the pickle can be increased to any quantity desired. Let these be boiled together until all the dirt from the

sugar rises to the top and is skimmed off. Then throw it into a tub to cool, and when cold pour it over your beef or pork. The meat must be well covered with pickle, and should not be put down for at least two days after killing, during which time it should be slightly sprinkled with powdered saltpetre, which removes all the surface-blood, etc., leaving the meat fresh and clean. Some omit boiling the pickle, and find it to answer well, though the operation of boiling purifies the pickle, by throwing off the dirt always to be found in sugar. If this receipt is strictly followed, it will require but a single trial to prove its superiority over the common way, or most ways, of putting down meat, and will not soon be abandoned for any other. The meat is unsurpassed for sweetness, delicacy and freshness of color.—*Germantown Telegraph.*

TAPIOCA CUP PUDDING.—This is very light and delicate for invalids. An even tablespoonful of tapioca, soaked for two hours in nearly a cup of new milk; stir into this the yolk of a fresh egg, a little sugar, a grain of salt, and bake it in a cup for fifteen minutes. A little jelly may be eaten with it.

CUT THIS OUT, fill up, and mail to us, with the subscription price (\$1.00) for the MARYLAND FARMER for 1885.

E. Whitman, Editor MARYLAND FARMER:—Enclosed find one dollar (\$1 00), for which send me the MARYLAND FARMER one year from this date, also one of the premiums offered on page 374 of this number.

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