

## AGRICULTURAL NOTES.

An intelligent friend has a valuable apple tree, which yielded a bountiful crop of apples once in two years. He expressed a desire that pomologists could have some clear skill to make that tree a success every season, rather than a heavy crop one year and nothing the next. As the variety was so excellent they greatly desired a similar result at least every season. He was assured that it would whip off all the blossoms on one half of the tree top the portion dedicated would be supplied the next season. As he has said that if the tree produced fruit on only half the top, there would be more than sufficiently could use, he reluctantly tried the experiment, the success of which he harbored no confidence, and whipped off every blossom to be seen within the area of about half the tree. The result was that it always with similar circumstances there was a supply of fruit the following season on that part of the tree from which the blossoms had been removed, while the other portion still bore fruit yielding fruit. The same result could have been attained by whipping off one-half or more of blossoms over the entire tree. By removing the blossoms the tree would have been greatly lessened. Hence the energies of the tree would have been adequate to the perfect development of the limited crop, and also to the production of the maximum for the next season. There is one fact connected with this subject which most people have not failed to observe, that is, that the removal of the young fruit, or both, have been destroyed by frost, the trees the following season will be unusually fruitful.—*Mobile Register*.

Butter kept in a room over night with the family, in winter, is not fit to use. It has absorbed so much of the air that it becomes rancid food. The taste of the bad air is plainly perceptible. But cover your butter plate (not an old one) with a tight dish—say a tin can, and your butter will keep longer, and the taste of the bad air will be lost when placed there. It is, however, only perfect when kept, not occasionally but always, in fresh air. Butter cannot be kept when once salted it can never be recovered but tenaciously holds all it has and gets all it can. Like charcoal, gypsum or earth, it is a powerful absorber. From the time it is gathered in the snow until it is used in the house, great care must be given to the factual product. Not only that, it reaches still further; the food, the water must not possess the odor. But greatest of all is the taste in the mouth and the atmosphere that comes in contact with it. These, at least, if injure, impair their impurity, however pure the milk may have been.—*Western Farmer*.

A ton of well saved fodder costs a well used man the price of a ton of hay, how rarely is it well saved or well spent. Exposed, after husking, to all the storms of October, it is tardily hauled in November, and, musty and weather beaten, it is not only the poorest fodder, but absolutely injurious to the stock to which it is thrown in the roughest and most unhygienic manner. This is the case. It is trampled down in the snow and mire, and next spring is census as the greatest nuisance a farmer has to contend with. But let the cornstalks be shorn off, and the stalks cut at the butts of the stalks, and tied closely at the top until the corn is husked, and then put up in convenient bundles, and again set up, so that the rain can not penetrate the sheaves, and the stalks are easily stacked or put away beneath a tight roof, and it becomes agreeable-looking, snug-and-comfortable, which will be readily eaten by all sorts of stock. If it is cut up with any of the various cutter cutters into short lengths or is chopped up and thrown on the bare floor, wetted, and sprinkled with a little salt, and a handful of bran, it will be all consumed; and the manure heap in the spring will be altogether free from the objectionable smell of the old manure stalks, while it will be equally enriched by their fertilizing remains. In this way the supply of feed will be economized, often leaving hay to spare for sale, or for making into manure, feeding stock to be doubled, and besides, what is often a source of trouble and annoyance may be turned to good account and money made by it.—*American Agriculturist*.

The crop of corn raised by Mr. N. Farnham of Bridgewater, on his farm in this season, shows that farming in Maine can, by judicious and intelligent labor, be made as profitable as in any other State. His crop on one field was 188 bushels of corn per acre, and he received the rate of 92 bushels to the acre. The entire profit of the field was \$138.33; the entire cost \$75.85, leaving a clear margin of \$38.50.—*Portland Argus*.

Sometimes we have an animal that will grow six hundred pounds, and will sell for \$7.50 per cwt. It will bring \$35. This is the highest price for a steer, and it is due, according to the quotation in the *Farmer* of September 10. Now suppose this animal is fed enough grain and good hay to bring it up to that class quoted "to a good," and is increased to 1,000 lbs., and it will then weigh 700 lbs., and sell for \$3.50 and bring \$90.40. Instead of \$15, and the extra 100 lbs. that have been produced bring not \$3.50 but \$14.00, the difference between \$3.50 and \$14.00, suppose the animal is increased to the condition of "good oxen," and is worth \$3.50 per cwt. and has gained 200 lbs. It now weighs 800 lbs. and is worth \$10.00, and \$16.50 for the last hundred pounds, or \$11 for the last 200 lbs. Who does not believe that with corn meal at 80 cents per bushel there is a profit in meat for beef, and 100 lbs. per pound? Before turning our feet at low prices, would it not be well to look over these figures. It may cost \$9.50 for meat enough to pack and 100 lbs. per pound of beef to an ox, but at the same time the previous weight is increased in value one or two cents a pound, there is a good profit in the transaction. Good articles profitably.—*New England Farmer*.

The Germanautian Telegraph gives "our receipt for curing meat": To one gallon of water, take one pound and a half of salt, half a pound of sugar, and an ounce of saltpetre, and if you can afford it, add in this ratio the pickle can be preserved to any quantity desired. Let these be boiled together until all the dirt from the sugar rises to the surface, then strain off the water, throw it into a tub to cool, and when cold, pour it over your beef or pork, to remain the usual time, say four or five weeks. The meat must be well covered with pickle, and must not be packed for at least two days after killing, during which time it should be slightly sprinkled with powdered saltpetre, which removes all the dirt, leaves the meat fresh and clean, leaving the meat fresh and clean. Some boil 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 pickle-sauces.

The Southern Farmer says: The arguments may be in favor of the great size, but the facts are all the other way. Large horses are liable to stumble and lame themselves, and small ones, though they are clumsy, can fill themselves so quickly. There is nothing more surprising than to visit Missouri, and see the small built, compacted carriages full of people, with apparent ease. A horse weighing three hundred pounds, in Missouri, takes a step of six inches, and wagons, with two men in them, travel fifty or sixty miles a day, over hills,

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