THRESHING WHEAT.

The Practicality of Threshing from the Stack Rather Than from the Shock.

The advantages claimed by some for shocking wheat are: 1 Threshing can be done from the wagon or stack by one man who only is required, it is claimed, and the cost of threshing is thus saved to say the farmer; and 2, by going through a field in which the grain is of better quality, stronger and brighter in color, and in consequence of being exposed to the sun in the shock is decidedly safer to secure a lack of our dearest account. As did have correspondent, who admitting that there are some grounds for the ideas, thinks that threshing from the shock is not necessarily practicable of late years, especially in sections where the stubble areas are green, and he gives the following reasons for this:

In case the farmer is starting to reap he can have his grain cut so as to put it up in shocks in a manner to prevent it keeping properly in case much rain follows the stacking, as good wheat makes are about as secure as loose hay. Farmers generally have learned by bitter experience that it is safer to put by their wheat in the stack a certain time if necessary, and incur some additional expense in threshing from the stack, rather than run the risk of heating when stacked in a loose, compressible manner. If we are speculating on future weather and wishing to save a little money in the shocking we can begin work with a neighbor and run steadily to done—threshing from the stack need not be attended with much if any extra expense from the shock, as the extra labor of venue required is the only loss of additional cost. And if a balance be struck between the two methods of threshing we actually find a saving in favor of threshing from the shock, if the labor of carriers, of the person making allowance to thresher and of the labor necessary to deliver the cleaner from the mill to the machine, which labor, all all will require four men to perform.

The man who stacks a wet time in his first experience in threshing from the stack will not be very enthusiastic in his praise of the practice, while if the earlier process favorable it will remain in more future seasons to appeal him, if in many cases it disappoints. In my experience I have become thoroughly adapted to this manner of threshing, I did it two when a wet spell comes on operations particularly and I always all hands said the weather man's idea of being settled and the wheat thoroughly dries out.

For to admit that wheat threshed wet or damp can never be properly dried, are with a very great expenditure of time and of labor, as in both this case, also the efforts of nature to get rid of the dampness result in a rise of temperature in the grain, according to the amount of dampness it contains. If the heat is excessive the grain cakes and molds, producing a musty smell not only on the outside of the grain, but also an into the interior, resulting in serious deterioration of both quality and value of its flour manufactured from it. The quickest, best and only place to dry wheat is in the stack. A light shower, or a heavy dew will quickly dry, but in case of continued damp weather, though little rain falls, sunders wheat unfit for threshing from the shock.

The length of time wheat should stand in the field before being threshed depends on the state of ripeness when cut and the weather following. It will not do to stand longer than if the wheat is to be put in stack, and here is where machine threshing has an advantage over threshing from the shock, as the wheat can be taken off the fields before the grain is killed under the shocks, which will be from six to ten days with shocks and fifteen to twenty days with stacks.

The Corn Average.

Reports from the Department of agriculture show the average of corn, as compared with the area of last year, to be 93 per cent. The reduction of area has mainly been confined to the great corn producing regions of the Ohio, upper Mississippi and Missouri valleys. In these districts the falling of a much heavier than the general average above given, the loss here having been in a measure offset by an increasing acreage in the Atlantic states, and in the south Atlantic, as well as in some in the southwest corn. In the corn surplus states which furnish the bulk of commercial corn the average this year as compared with last year's area is as follows: Ohio, 85; Indiana, 80; Illinois, 84; Iowa, 87; Missouri, 84; Kansas, 90; Nebraska, 87; average, 85. This decrease has been in a measure offset by the increased acreage in the south, where a portion of last year's cotton field has been given to corn.

In the eleven cotton states the present area is seen, compared with that of last year, is 103.8. This makes a large increase in the aggregate area of that section, but it should be borne in mind that the yield per acre in the surplus states, where the acreage has been reduced, is much larger than in the south, where it is increased.

Crimson Clover.

Crimson clover has attracted great attention in the south during the past three or four years, but its trial results are still in doubt. So far it has not given a good crop in this section, though it is valued highly at the Carolina stations, and the Florida station has given one meritorious crop, followed by two failures. Under favorable circumstances it makes a very vigorous winter growth and affords good grazing or soiling, but in many cases only a scant growth is secured and the plants are weak and dying. We would recommend it for experiment in this state until we know more of its credit and value as a valuable crop in Mississippi.—Rural.

To Be Viewed Through Smoked Glass.

A girl who attracted much attention here in Washington last season, was the guest of Brentwood Washington street yesterday. She wore a red hat, red cape, red dress, carrying yellow wand, red fan and red boots. She was a sight for sore eyes, but not for sore when you looking with weak eyes.—Boston Herald.

The Tale of a Fag.

A woman with a thousand miles from Richmond was without doubt the most tedious journey in one coaches which she discovered, after coming out of Chicago Sunday, that her brand new hat was adorned with a fag, whereupon she inscribed the legend, "Reduced to $4.75."

A PLEA FOR THE BIRDS.

Their Usefulness in Destroying Injurious Insects.

In an essay read before the Massachusetts Horticultural society by Mr. Thomas C. Thurber, it was stated that the methods of destroying the insects which are established beyond a doubt. Many of our birds during the spring months live entirely on insects. Robins and orioles are captured on the wing, robins in the larva or caterpillar state, and still others as they appear in early morning as moths, grubs, beetles, etc. These birds change to pickers or cleaners are all insect eating birds, but may later in the season have a little fruit or seeds as a dessert. These change as follows, including only such species, either of these birds which feed largely on insects, still the best are spared them, and they are protected from such insects to order that continues may have the pleasure of killing them during the remainder of the year.

With the disappearance of the march birds, come glory on our ponds, the grass-pipers have increased on the leaves and branches. The second wood and ear birds if the birds had all been protected in the fall would have been so abundant that where the primeval forests protected in sounds of birds where we have no such protection, nature preserved the balance of power, and birds and insects seem have lived together for generations with no either passing one tertiary on the other. Since that time no new species of insects have been created, though many have been imported, but through various causes the balance of power has been turned in favor of the insects, till today they are the lords of all agriculturists.

Of the English sparrow Mr. Thurber could say neither from experience, as they did not visit his place, but, with his present conviction, he did not express their absence. Some evidence was read from others, showing that the birds is almost insectivorous and that the prejudice against this bird is subject to a change. The sparrow cover, in his opinion, does more damage in destroying the eggs and young of other birds than he does good in eating a few insects. Owls and hawks will kill small birds, therefore keep them at a distance.

The slaughter of birds to ornament ladies' hats and dresses was severely deprecated. The noble example of the Princess of Wales in refusing to inspect anything in which birds are used as trimming was highly applauded.

In a discussion of the many varying epidemics now engaged by monitors as to crows, hawks and owls, but none appear favorably of the English sparrow.

Honey and Its Honeycomb.

Honey is a natural secretion of the flowers and not a production of bees. Bees gather but its as some manufacture it. Honeycomb, on the other hand, is a secretion of the bees. Honey is secreted, digested and elaborated in the body of the bee into this sealed of wax, like fine wheat bran, which exudes from between the ringlets of the bee's abdomen. These scales are taken up in the mouth, 10 or 12 wraps of the bees and put together like the plates of a steam boiler, which, however, with round rivets, but the bees being always in clusters when they construct comb, the wax scales from the heat of the cluster, being soft and plastic, are welded together so completely that the seams are invisible. This they do in the dark, without gas, electric or sun light. Bees will not enter a vessel whose capacity will not allow a swarm of the bees. Honey is so to produce enough heat to soften the scales of wax. This is an indispensable condition in the construction of comb. A correspondent of the Philadelphia Farm Journal, who makes the Swegerling experiment, adds the following:

There is no such thing as artificial comb prepared mechanically ready for the reception of honey. I cite a statement once published in The Popular Science Monthly some years ago by Professor H. W. Wiley, in what he afterwards called "Scientific Pleasant". Mistaking the import of the article, editors of other publications understood it as a veritable attachment of fact, and it went the round of the press of the country. Although Professor Wiley has stated over his own signature that it was only a joke, yet the comb still is known. As Daily necessary for the production of eggs, so the bee is indispensable for the production of honey and wax. The hand that has ever been done by machinery has been the formation of an impression of sheets of wax, properly called foundation, so as to the bees build their comb.

Potatoes in Montana.

Julian Ralph tells in Harper's Monthly that there are no such potatoes in the world as are grown in Montana. Those giants grow large size and often weigh four, four or five pounds apiece. To the taste they are a new vegetable. The larger ones are coarse, but the smaller ones are like mess of mash when the skin is broken the meat falls out like flour. It much very rare because the people of every ground in first grade hotels, restaurants and clubs to prepare these delicious vegetables for those who enjoy good living. As these potatoes are cultivated in all the valleys east of the Rocky mountains there will soon be no lack of them. Today the only mess that have left the state have been the few bushels sent experimentally to New York, Washington and San Francisco.

LIFE INSURANCE FOR WOMEN.

Why a Wife Should Never Insure Her Life in Favor of Her Husband.

The subject of life insurance is begins prior to attract attention among women. It is known that though the aggregate volume of the sum payable on life policies in Europe and America amounts to the enormous figure of $[illegible] or a sum exceeding the total cost of all the railroads in the world added to all the national debts—the risks taken out on female lives amount to a comparatively small sum. This has arisen partly from the unwillingness of life insurance companies to insure women, a feeling which indeed, some companies to refuse to insure these at all, while others charge 1 per cent. additional for female risks, and partly from — but time not [illegible] so, as it [illegible] the family breadwinner, who, in such case, not, sure in ranging third cases, would be the last to speculate against in a pecuniary point of view. Still the number of women who do insure would take head out of the number of others is on the decrease.

Occasionally, however, female risks become women are exposed to the of casualties and diseases from which men are exempt, and on the other hand, men are exposed to the [illegible] of diseases peculiar to women, particularly in childbirth or from diseases incident to maternity. The women are hardly on an equality in this respect. It is probable that a healthy married woman of twenty or thirty years of age, in good health, or a married of maternity is as good a risk as a young man of the same age.

Some of the companies exist for policy whether one or two are insurable because in the life of a woman. A report with an exhibit has been made to the effect in the life, but was rather a pecuniary loss when a girl or a married woman died. Certainly not, as a general rule, the father, or the mother, or the husband of the insured, or the children, or the husband of the insured, or the husband of the insured, or the husband of the insured