

CARE OF CORNSTALKS.

Advice for Farmers Who Have Not Adopted This.
There is necessarily much difficulty in saving coarse stalks of corn fall of sap so as to make good feed in winter by ordinary methods. It is this fact which has much to do with making storage popular. For the benefit of those who have no silos but are in the habit of leaving the cornstems in the field until dried out by freezing weather, The American Cultivator gives this advice:

The common objection to drawing stalks in early is that they will heat in snow or stack. If piled in large heaps soon after being cut the mass will rot down and be good for nothing except mature. But some fermentation is not objectionable if not carried too far. It is a very easily the stalks, and even when it results in some loss of nutrition it makes the remaining stalks more durable and probably more fit for drying. We often see cattle in winter greedily picking out the stalks that had become overheated in the snow, and when fed were still moist from the heating. Some of these stalks were dried, and we found that they might, if fed to cows bearing young, cause abortion, but we later abandoned that theory as a mistake.

There is, we believe, less danger from excessive and injurious heating of fresh stalks dried as much as they can be without exposing them to the sun, than there is from wet stalks that have been exposed to atmospheric changes several months. The green stalks will heat if piled up, and in hot weather will soon rot down. But we know it is possible to get them in barns or stacks dried as much as they can be without exposure to rain, and by using dry straw with them last the whole in better condition than is possible by either way. If the bundles of stalks are made small a layer of straw between each layer of stalks will shield all the benefits that the stalks give off to fermentation. The stalks themselves are not fit for heating will become more palatable, and will be eaten by stock which will refuse dry straw from the stacks. Straw is plentiful at this season on most large farms. There can be no better way to use it than in helping to save the oven fodder in good condition.

In the heating of cornstems that have not been exposed to rain or freezing there is much less likelihood of the more injurious fungous growths that come from fermentation of cornstems whose nutrition was largely interrupted out of doors. The greater part of the ripened cornstems act partially as preservatives, and at any rate the richer feed that stock gets from these weathered stalks maintains vigorous health and enables the animal to resist the fungous pests that depend on physical exhaustion to make them effective.

Autumn Civilization.

Theoretically there is nothing better than autumn civilization, but this is often spoken of as a theory that may be followed in any season. The man controls the extent to which it can be carried out, and though when well executed there is nothing of greater value, yet injudiciously effected more harm than good may be done. Perhaps the greatest good can be done on frosty soils, as they are then turned over when in a dry condition, and soils inverted when dry rarely run together, however much wet falls on them during winter; consequently they turn out dry and easily worked in spring. When plowed out with the cultivator, the plow is more suggestive of a kind of old fashioned "soot" than of material from which new seed beds are made. The lighter soils can of course be worked advantageously in less favorable weather, as a longer season remains for working them; consequently an apparent backwardness may often be made good. But whatever the soil there is no doubt that, where possible, it is an advantage to go forward with the tillage in autumn.

A Poultry Breed of Practical Worth.

The Plymouth Rock have proved their great adaptability to variable climates, atmospheric changes and unfavorable conditions, says an exchange. They have the ability to stand the summer's heat and winter's frost, neglect, bad usage, uncomfortable quarters and poor food without showing signs of deterioration. They make good foragers when at liberty; on the farm they become self-reliant and will provide for themselves a good share of their food. They are hardy birds, as they are neither wild nor of a roving disposition. They have a pleasing appearance, one that would strike the ordinary observer with the idea of usefulness, nor is this idea illusory, as they embrace more practical merits than any breed that we know of, according to The Farmers' Review, which thinks the farmer will find them his fowl in every respect.

Potatoes in Storage.

It is curious to note the differences and the opposite methods resorted on in certain points. For instance, one believes it an advantage to let the potatoes lie on the ground when dug and the sun炙es them, another believes the heating rays of the sun are good for heating and their quality as well. One believes in digging them early, another late. One sprinkles them with lime; another declares that he "never uses any disinfectants," as though the bare suggestion was repulsive to him. And so it goes. One has one method, and his neighbor has another. But as the Orange County Farmer remarks, all agree that the potato must be kept in a cool, dry place, a well ventilated cellar being considered best. The general opinion does not favor the use of air slacks, but prefers air slacks extending over the tubers when storing them.

The Irrigation of Orchards.

It has been demonstrated in California that surface irrigation is not the best method for orchards. This system is usually wasteful and causes an unnecessary growth of weeds and grass. It also starts the tree growth causing the roots to form in bulk and not in depth. An orchard designed for market fruits should be irrigated by means of shallow conductors or cement pipes.

These are laid below the freezing point and made of sufficient dimensions to carry the requisite quantity of water within three or four feet of the trees. Holes are cut in the top of the pipes and covered by stones to prevent the holes filling with earth allowing the water to percolate slowly out from the trees.

and molts the soil at the roots of the trees.

By this method the roots grow downward, giving the tree a firmness to root disturbances and withstand the effects of continued dry weather in case the water supply is temporarily exhausted. The system may be considered expensive, but the additional yield of fruit will justify such expenditure. The field of the fruit irrigated fruit market will be large enough to justify systematic underdraining as well as piping. Irrigation will be more easily practised as the market areas are already prepared though expensive as it may seem, these orchards will be valuable dividend paying properties.—Irrigation Age.

An Accommodating Barber.
Some of the rural towns in New England do not support a barber, and hair cutting is usually done by an accommodating neighbor. A writer recently fell in with one of these amateur barbers, and humorously describes his accommodations:

Now I was perchance stricken of a nosebleed, having, with a nasal bag about my neck, to protect it from the fall of hair. I might say the possibilities of a fall from the headgear were great, as I squirmed about it to have the tight strap of my head right, so the gurus would be even. He was no mean barber, for he seemed to receive any compensation.

After our cutting acquaintance I was much of the barber. One time it was on the school steps, steps cutting a man's hair. I had a nail and a pair of shears on a nail head, the handle of his vest pocket patch. The barber was leaning against a beam pole with his hands in his pockets, evidently making the most of his luxuriant coat. Anywhere and everywhere he happened to catch his eye, the enterprising barber would work. I was on the shore one day watching a fisherman at his oarsman's stool. A small white went out from a neighboring boat. It was the barber, who rowed over to where the fisherman was and soon cutting his hair.—Believe it.

An Indian Artist:
In India a variety of gems and stones are used as ornaments. The most common is the sapphire, a stone about as large as a billiard ball, and which is perforated with black. This is supposed to be found only in a river.

The person who wears one of these stones is esteemed highly fortunate; he preserves it in a chain cloak, from whence it is sometimes taken to be bathed and perfumed. He believes that the water in which it is washed, if drunk, has the power to preserve from sin. Holding it in his hand, the dying Hindu expires in peace, trusting in a chance rather than in the living God.

Garrison Cremation.
Chicago has made a movement in the direction of operating city cemeteries for the burning of all the garbages that is continually dumped into wagons and carried off to fever and produce disease. The satisfactory disposal of garbage and sewage is the most difficult sanitary problem that modern civilization has to deal with, and the outcome of the experiment at Chicago will be watched with deep interest.

Undoubtedly cremation is the best disposition that can be made of all cast off organic matter. It perhaps should really be turned into fertilizing material, and might be if there was any way of treating it chemically, so that it would not be both offensive and dangerous. But until that is accomplished, which will deal with the matter successfully, has been found, certainly the best thing for public health is to erect crematories in which both garbage and sewage may be consumed.

Then we shall know for certain that whatever possible good is lost in the certain harm they do will be avoided. They are converted into harmless gas and ashes, and cannot poison either earth, air or water.

Meantime there is a private crematory in every large, and that is the kitchen range or stove. There garbage, grocery papers and trash of all kinds can be consumed effectively, making a clean sweep, destroying their power to draw either roaches, flies or disease germs to rot and give disease germs of their own.

But the question of effluvia from

garbage and sewage, crematories is one that should claim the efforts of sanitary engineers generally.

Pathetic enough is the latest utterance of blind old Louis Kossuth: "I am resolved never to set foot in Hungary as long as the country recognizes the emperor of Austria as its king. It is terrible for me to think that, with all the blows of my purpose and joyless life, I should have to bear the burden of living beyond my ninetieth birthday." Yet it is not so bad. If the old patriot could see the real power his native country yields. It is true he did not succeed in making Hungary an independent republic, yet today she is the controlling power of the Austrian empire. A German is nominally emperor, yet the national spirit shown by Louis Kossuth in 1848 has propelled the Hungarians on till the Magyar blood circulation to drive out the Teutonic element. When Kossuth is gone the light, which he now proclaim with such brightness to have been fruitless, now speaks only of the empire of Austria. Now they call it Austria-Hungary. If in a diligent and peaceful way the Hungarians conquer Austria, will not the same end be accomplished?

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