FARM AND GARDEN.

OBSERVATIONS WORTHY OF CONSIDERATION IN RURAL AFFAIRS.

A Poultry House That Consists of a Two Story Upright and Two Wings Built by an Enthusiastic Poultryman of New York State.

The accompanying cut represents a combination view of the main building of Mr. Willis Clark's poultry yards, Wyanoke, N. Y. This building includes the winter quarters, which consisted of a two story upright and two wings—total length, 80 feet; upright, 16 by 32 feet; wings, each 12 by 32 feet, on stone foundations, boarded with rough boards first, then covered with tarred paper, and again with inch pine siding matched; the whole being tastily painted, and costing about $200. The building stands on a tableland facing square south.

The building is divided into ten pens, each 8 by 8½ feet, separated by wire netting attached to boards 2 feet high. The food is kept in the front portion of the upright, and is fed on the floor of the alley (12 by 80 feet), water being also set in the alley, thus preventing incumbrances or nests of feed by trampling. The fowls feed through spaces between each twin coop, and 2 inches apart, about 18 inches high, above which wire netting completes the division between the pens and alley to the roof.

BUILDING MADE WITH WINGS.

Mr. Clark claims no originality in the construction of the nests or other furniture, except that to circumvent "roy eaters" he sometimes closes his nests and compels the culprits to lay in mid keep, at about one-third of the distance from the bottom of which he builds the nests. This has proven effectual when all other means have failed. All furniture is portable, and can be carried through the door leading to the alley, taken out doors and cleansed by scalding, whitewashing or painting with crude petroleum, which he obtains from oil wells only six miles away at a nominal price. The second story of upright is used as a storeroom for corn, feed, coal, etc., through the winter, and for hatching purposes in the spring, for which he always resorts to "mother hen," with all her family, in room, 12 by 20, nicely ventilating fifty chicks. The foregoing cut and description are reproduced for our readers from The American Poultry Yard.

Applying Commercial Fertilizers.

A correspondent of The New York World writes: My plan in the garden, especially with all small crops like lettuce, onions and the class, is to prepare the soil in good tilth ready for the seed and then scatter the fertilizer broadcast as evenly as is possible. Then rake the surface with a good steel rake; work the fertilizer well into the soil. With all this class of plants the fertilizer needs to be near the surface in order to benefit them. With cabbage, tomatoes and all the class of larger vegetable plants make the place for the plants, using a dibble or garden trowel. Put in the fertilizer and stir it in well with the soil and then set in the plants. With sweet corn, potatoes and this class of plants prepare the soil and mark out the furrows ready for the seed. Drop the fertilizer where the seed is to be planted, stir into the soil, then plant and cover the seed. Generally this will be found better, especially with potatoes, than to wait until the plants come up and then apply commercial fertilizers.

A Few Show Weights.

Northwest Stockman discovers as follows: Old, broken mouthed ewes are dear at any price. If they cannot be sold to the butcher feed them to the crows in the fall—they will get them anyhow before "the voice of the turtle is heard in the land."

All sheep are subject to both internal and external parasites. Feed them occasionally a little hardwood ashes or finely pulverized tobacco, which will free them from worms and improve their general health. Dip them thoroughly in some approved sheep dip, and there is nothing better than a preparation of tobacco.

Do not overstock; better keep too few rather than too many. If a flock of 100 sheep could be made as profitable as a flock of ten, shepherds would be clothed in purple and fine linen. Mix a little sulphur with their salt; it enriches the blood and disagrees with ticks and other parasites.

Champion Short Horn Heifer.

The portrait here presented of the short horn heifer belonging to Queen Victoria can hardly fail to interest the admirers of this breed of cattle, inasmuch as said heifer is a perfect specimen. Her evenness of form, thickness of flesh and general fine appearance leave little, if anything, to be desired.

THE QUEEN'S CHAMPION HEIFER.

Princess Josephine II, the heifer under consideration, is a roan, aged about two and three-quarters years. She took the championship of both the Birmingham and Smithfield shows.

James M. Thevlaine says that the best means of improving meadows, pastures and lawns is to sow a sufficient variety of grass seeds, and suggests that a mixture made of the following kinds in common use with Canada:

One of the recent applications of electricity that promises to be of considerable benefit to weighing men is a ring for registering the nots of travel of high speed vessels.

Not Rated High.

George—Chappie is one of those fellows who have more money than brains, isn't he?

Jessie—Yes; and he is not rich, either.—Harper's Bazar.

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STOP IT NOW, SOON IT WILL BE TOO LATE.

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