

Agriculture.

HOW TO JUDGE POULTRY.

As cold weather is here, and the time come for purchasing poultry for the table, it may not be out of place to give a few general rules by which the age of fowls of all descriptions can be judged.

OF FOWLS.—If a hen's spur is hard, and the scales on the legs rough, she is old, whether you see her head or not, but her head will corroborate your observation.

OF TURKEYS.—An old hen turkey has rough scales on the legs, collicities on the soles of the feet, and long, strong claws; a young one the reverse of all those marks.

OF GESE.—An old goose, when plucked, is known by the legs, the tenderness of the skin under the wings, by the pinions and the bill, and the coarseness of the skin.

OF DUCKS.—Ducks are distinguished by the same means; but there is this difference, that a duckling's bill is much longer in proportion to the breadth of its head than the old duck's.

OF PIGEONS.—A young pigeon is discovered by its pale colour, smooth scales, tender collapsed feet, and the yellow long down interspersed among its feathers.

WINTERING STOCK.—In speaking of the fall care of stock, the Maryland Farmer justly remarks: "Cows, and especially young stock, if well wintered, may be considered half summered; and it is equally true that if, at the close of the growing season, they go into winter quarters in good condition, they may be called half wintered."

HAVE YOU ENOUGH FODDER?—Cattle, horses and sheep will eat per day three pounds of hay, or its equivalent, per one hundred pounds live weight.

ABOUT BEES.—The goodness and flavour of honey depend on the fragrance of the plants from which the bees collect it; and hence it is that the honey of different places is held in different degrees of estimation.

KEEP THE HOUSE HEALTHY.—A sink near a kitchen door-step may spread sickness through an entire household.

BEEFSTEAK FOR THE OLD.—Take coarse, lean beef, with a small quantity of suet; run it through a sausage-cutter, or chop it very finely; add pepper and salt; make it into cakes three-quarters of an inch thick, and cook as you would beefsteak.

The roses of pleasure seldom last long enough to adorn the brow of him who plucks them, and they are the only roses which do not retain their sweetness after they have lost their beauty.—Blair.

Scientific.

WATER-PROOF GLUE.—Immerse common glue in cold water until it becomes soft, but still retains its form; then put into it common raw linseed oil, and apply a gentle heat, until it is completely dissolved by the oil.

A glue which will resist water to a considerable degree is made by dissolving common glue in skimmed milk. Fine levigated chalk added to the common solution of glue in water constitutes an addition which strengthens it, and renders it suitable for sign boards and other things which must stand the weather.

A glue that will hold against fire and water may be prepared by mixing a handful of quicklime with four ounces of linseed oil. Thoroughly levigate the mixture, boil it to a good thickness, and then spread it on tin plates in the shade; it will become exceedingly hard, but may be dissolved over a fire, like ordinary glue, and it is then fit for use.

When glue is exposed to the weather, common glue, protected by a good coat of oil color, is superior to the above. If both are combined (that is, the water-proof glue and the paint) a much greater advantage may be obtained.

BRILLIANT BUT USELESS.—Sir Astley Cooper, on visiting Paris, was asked by the surgeon, en chef of the Empire how many times he had performed the operation thirteen times, "Ah, but Monsieur, I have done him one hundred and sixty times. How many times did you save his life?" continued the Frenchman, after he had looked into the blank amazement of Sir Astley's face.

Of how many popular ministries might the same verdict be given! Souls are not saved but the preaching is very brilliant.

WHAT THEY DRINK.—Here is an item for moderate drinkers and others. The distillers in this country are now agitating the question of the distillation of spirits from the garbage of cities. In this new process the garbage is gathered from the houses of citizens, dumped into vats, boiled, the grease skimmed off, and the pulpy mass fermented and distilled.

FLOUR, OR BREAD.—Housekeepers who buy bread of the bakers, instead of having it baked at home, save themselves some trouble. But if the calculations quoted and remarked upon by Zion's Herald are just and accurate, they certainly do not save money.

It is said experiments in the army bakery show that eight hundred and two one-pound loaves of bread can be made from one barrel of flour.

KEEP THE HOUSE HEALTHY.—A sink near a kitchen door-step may spread sickness through an entire household.

AFTER crackers have got to be old tough, and tasteless, put them into the oven on a tin and brown them a little, and they will be as brittle as when first from the bakery.

HALIFAX, N. S., JANUARY 10, 1872.

MESSENGER ALMANACK.

JANUARY, 1872.

Last Quarter, Jan. 3rd, 5h. 45m. at noon. New Moon, " 10th, 10h. 44m. morning. First Quarter, " 17h, 7h. 45m. morning. Full Moon, " 25th, 1h. 0m. afternoon.

Table with columns: Day, SUN, MOON, High Tide, Low Tide. Rows for days of the month from 1st to 31st.

THE TIDES.—The column of the Moon's Southern gives the time of high water at Parrsboro', Cornwallis, Horton, Hantsport, Windsor, Newport, and Truro.

High water at Pictou and Cape Tormentine, 2 hours and 11 minutes later than at Halifax. At Annapolis, St. John, N. B., and Portland Maine, 3 hours and 25 minutes later, and at St. John's, Newfoundland 20 minutes earlier, than at Halifax.

FOR THE LENGTH OF THE DAY.—Add 12 hours to the time of the sun's setting, and from the sum subtract the time of rising.

FOR THE LENGTH OF THE NIGHT.—Subtract the time of the sun's setting from 12 hours, and to the remainder add the time of rising next morning.

A. V. P. B.

ARCHIBALDS VEGETABLE PAIN BALSAM is an article worthy of patronage and should be found in every house. It is equal if not superior to any other Pain Killer now in use.

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Sold by all the principal Dealers and Druggists in the Provinces. Oct. 21. 1 yr.

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The tone possesses a most fascinating quality, closely resembling the real FOX HUMANA, being delicate and sympathetic, and free from the disagreeable tremor that haunts most of the mis-called FOX HUMANA stops.

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Notice is hereby given, that on and after 1st January next, COUPONS of Debentures, payable in Nova Scotia, will be paid at this office, on receipt of a requisition signed by the Dominion Auditor at Halifax.

C. E. BATHFORD, Assis. Recr. General.

Dec. 6.

NOVA SCOTIA RAILWAY.

WINTER ARRANGEMENT, 1871-72.

To take effect on Monday, 11th of December, 1871.

Table with columns: Station, Passengers, Mail, Express, Accommodation. Rows for Halifax, Windsor, Kentville, Annapolis, Truro, Pictou.

Table with columns: Station, Accommodation, Mail, Express, Passengers. Rows for Pictou, Truro, Annapolis, Windsor, Halifax.

*W. & A. R. R. Stages connect at Truro with morning train for Annapolis, connecting there with the Intercolonial Railway and with E. & N. A. Railway to St. John, N. B., and with Stages for Pugwash, Wallace and Tatam gouche.

Connections are made at New Glasgow with Stage Line for Annapolis, Strait of Canso, Sydney, Cow Bay and Sherbrooke.

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Through connections are made with the Windsor and Annapolis Railway at Windsor, with the steamer "Empress" at Annapolis for St. John, N. B., and with the steamers of the International line to Eastport, Portland and Boston, and all parts of Quebec and Ontario.

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PROVINCIAL NOTES.

OTTAWA, 13th Dec. 1871. NOTICE is hereby given that by the order of the Minister of Finance, all Provincial Notes will be redeemed at the office of any Assistant Receiver General of the Dominion, irrespective of the place at which it is dated on the Note that it is payable.

JOHN LANGTON, Auditor. Dec. 20.

Agents for the Christian Messenger.

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