

The Agriculturist

A WEEKLY JOURNAL DEVOTED TO AGRICULTURE, LITERATURE, AND NEWS.

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Varieties.

The Song of the Stream.

O'er the mosses and grasses The white cloud passes, Silent and soft as a dream; And the earth, in her shy embraces, Conceals the traces Of the secret birth of the stream;

Agriculture.

Sensible English Notions About the Care of Cattle.

To guard against chills and colds, with the loss of time, expense, and risk of unsound wind which often follows, horse owners require to be on the alert especially at this season of the year.

A Word about Bees.

A garden bee in the working months, May, June and July, is capable of laying from one to two thousand eggs per day, which will produce queens, workers or drones, according to the care bestowed on the larva or "grub" by the mature bees,

Use of Cayenne for Poultry.

The cayenne pepper so desirable for fowls is easily raised in the garden with a little care in starting. The seed should be sown either in a hot-bed, or in the house, early in the season and transported to the garden beds as soon as the ground is warm,

Beet Sugar.

At the late meeting of the New York Agricultural Society, Mr. Gennert read an able paper on Beet Sugar, of which the Country Gentleman gives the following synoptical report:— Thursday morning Mr. Ernest T. Gennert, secretary of the Maine Beet Sugar Association, read a paper on beet sugar in the United States.

Wintering Sheep.

The papers have little to say on this subject, especially here in New Hampshire, and generally throughout New England, probably from the fact that so few are raised, I am firmly persuaded that fewer dogs and more sheep would add materially to the wealth and comfort of the community.

in northern Maine, of anywhere—some say eight or ten percent. Now if a ton of roots produce 200 or 150 pound of sugar, and then if the cost of manufacturing will save the farmer 100 pounds, that will begin to look more encouraging, and we do not see why this may not be the case.

THE WORK FOR WINTER.—Winter is the time for planning, as the summer is the season of execution. Winter is the time for thought, as summer is the season for carrying thought into action.

I am no fortune teller, and am not skilled in the language of the "tea grounds," but I am of opinion, that if I knew what a farmer does with his so-called leisure hours and days of winter, I can in some measure predict his success in the busy days, seed time and harvest.

POLYGAMY AND PORRIDGE.—When we made an excursion in Southern Utah not long ago we were hospitably entertained by the Mormon bishop at Richfield. He was a Scotchman, and had been brought up a rigid Presbyterian.

A Good RULE.—A man who is very rich now is very poor when he was a boy. When asked how he got his riches he replied: "My father taught me never to play till my work was finished, and never to spend my money until I had earned it."

The workers kill the drones off about the last of August, but, as a rule, if they do not, and drones are found in the hive as late as the first of October, there is no queen in that hive.

This species of pepper is found to be very beneficial for fowls if given in moderate quantities, and on account of its purity is to be preferred before that kept by dealers.

So far the result of the experiment made last season in the manufacture of beet sugar in Maine has been very encouraging. About 450 tons were worked up, yielding nearly 95,000 pounds of sugar—about 104 per cent. of the green weight of the roots.

A correspondent of the *Dirigo Rural* writes on the subject of "Sugar-beet Culture." He is in some little doubt as to whether it will pay the farmer to raise beets to sell to the factory,

Does Farming Pay? A correspondent of the *New England Farmer*, writes on the question Does Farming Pay?

A late meeting of the British Association Dr. H. Muirhead made a communication on "left-handedness." He thought it depended upon which half the brain took the lead.

What a "Strain" is. The *Pet Stock Journal* gives the following definition of the term "strain" as used by breeders especially of poultry:—

To make bees work in the boxes, you want to have them arranged so that they can have free egress and ingress, and before putting them on, fasten pieces of comb in the top of each one at the same distance apart as bees generally build.

Ticks on Sheep. D. S. Campbell, of Royal Oak, complains that the lambs which were dropped in February of last year, and which were sold in the spring to the butcher, would not fatten because they were infested with ticks.

To make a beet crop pay, the ground should be ploughed deep in the fall, having been well manured for the previous crop. In the spring, as early as possible, the seed should be sown; the earlier the better, as frost will not hurt the young beets.

Now, two things remain to be provided to make it so here. First, will the beets produce the amount of sugar, and can the manufacture be so carried on as to give half or more of the value of the sugar for raising the beets, along with the waste of the roots for feed.

PIGS AS INSECT DESTROYERS.—The white grub which infests meadows and other lands is the larva of the May beetle, and, as it lives in the ground until the third season before it transforms, it often does great damage to crops.

Humility is a virtue all preach, none practise, and yet everybody is content to hear. The master thinks it good doctrine for his servant, the laity for the clergy, and the clergy think it good for the laity.

CORNED BEEF.—Make a brine as follows: To one hundred pounds of beef take four gallons of water, six pounds of salt, two of sugar, half pound of soda, two ounces saltpetre and six red peppers; let come to a boil, skim and set away to cool.

SPICED CORNED BEEF.—To ten pounds of beef, take two cups of salt, two cups molasses, two table-spoons saltpetre, one table-spoon ground pepper, one table-spoon cloves, rub well into the beef, turn every day and rub the mixture in; will be ready for use in ten days.

Make your farm so valuable by constant improvement, skillful culture, good fruit, ornamental shrubbery and pleasant surroundings, that no money will tempt you to leave it. And then if you are under the necessity, for any reason, of selling, you can secure a much higher price than if your farm had been neglected.

The first occupation of man, agriculture, will always be the noblest calling that men can pursue. While formerly the foolish world, outside the farm life, has assumed to think agriculture beneath it, the times have changed, and the farmer is being looked up to as one whose occupation is the first and whose influence is the greatest.

The agent of the Maine Beet Sugar Company, who has just returned from a trip to Europe to investigate the industry there, reports that there is no reason why it may not be made profitable in New England.

To cure Ham.—For every ham, half a pound each of salt and brown sugar, half an ounce each of cayenne pepper, saltpetre and saltpetre; mix and rub well over the ham—laying them in the barrel they are to be kept in with the skin side down; let them remain a week; make a pickle of water and salt strong enough to bear an egg, add to it half a pound of sugar, pour over the ham; till they are thoroughly covered, let them remain four weeks, take out and hang up to dry for at least a week before smoking; smoke with corn-cobs or hickory chips. An old but a good way.

A female lecturer in Boston said:—"Get married, young men, and be quick about it. Don't wait for the girls to become angels. You would look well beside an angel, wouldn't you?"

It is with little souled people as it is with narrow-necked bottles—the less they have in them the more noise they make in pouring out.

The road to fortune is through printer's ink.