

The Agriculturist.

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

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"AGRICULTURE THE TRUE BASIS OF A NATION'S WEALTH."

ANDREW ARCHER, Editor.

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Varieties.

Looking Back.

A barefooted child, by the meadow stile,
Sets down her basket to rest awhile,
And, turning, swings her hat, with a smile,
To a classmate, taking another way
O'er the sunny fields, with Spring flowers
gay.

And looking back.
With bright face saddened a young girl
leaves
One glimpse to catch of fast-fading scenes;
Learning the sorrow that parting means,
As, borne along by the hurrying train,
Living her school-days o'er again,
She's looking back.

A fairer picture there cannot be
Than yon vessel, sailing, proud and free,
Out to the billowy, open sea;
Yet a fair young bride with wistful eyes
From deck, to where the blue shore lies,
Keeps looking back.

A widow stands by a lonely grave
O'er which the shivering grass waves,
Marked by a stone with no record, save
The mossy traceries of changing years;
And to the far bright past with tears
Is looking back.

Whitely and silently falls the snow
On the meadows still, and cold winds blow
O'er the darkening fields, as, sighing low,
An aged woman, for the last time, seems
A child again; in happy dreams,
Still looking back.

Thus all through the world, wherever we
turn,
There are aching hearts, and souls that
yearn
Over by-gone hours; and thoughts still burn
Within us, that were uttered years ago,
As in the midnight watches slow
We're looking back.

But angels, kneeling before the throne,
The loved ones found; the long race won—
All thrilled with joy by this thought alone:
Their eyes "the King in His glory" see,
Yes, in His presence they can be
No looking back.

They Borrow but Never Return.

As we pass, day by day, thro' life's busy
highway,
There are many strange people we see;
And the worst, I conclude, are the ones who
intrude
On our charity, be it so free.

For they seem to depend upon what we
will lend,
Not a dollar they honestly earn;
Yet they prosper and thrive, and the way
they survive
Is, to borrow and never return!

If you lay up in store a few dollars or more,
Upon which you can depend,
Till they force you your money to lend,
If you doubtingly say, "I'm afraid you won't
pay,"
Such ideas of course they will spurn;

And you'll find out some day, I am right
when I say,
That they borrow, but never return!

In the fashion they dress, and their manners
express
They have plenty to eat and to wear;
But they'd be in the shade if their bills were
all paid,
And the poorhouse would have them in
care.

'Tis no wonder they smile when they pass
you in style,
It is better to beg than to earn
While it is true, as a rule, they will deem
you a fool,
When they borrow, to never return.

A sympathizing moralist pities
school-mistresses because they are less
likely to marry. Whereupon one of
them exclaims: "The idea of pitying
a woman because she is unmarried!
He'd better save his sympathies for
Mrs. Scroggins, who enjoys com-
munion with the wash-tub seven hours
a day, and then walks the floor with
the sixth baby, while Scroggins strops
snoring only long enough to inquire
why in thunder she can't manage the
children the way his mother did.
Unloved and unmarried, indeed!"

"Arrah, Pat, wouldn't ye be after
bringing home the shovel I lent ye
last Christmas?" "De'il a bit! I
haven't done with it this three
months." "Be jabbers! and what'll I
do for a shovel myself?" "It's per-
fectlyaisy for ye to borrow one, as I
did; so be off wid yerself, and not be
after bothering me ag'in wid yer
nonsense."

"Don't you love her still?" asked
the judge of a man who wanted a di-
vorce. "Certainly I do," said he; "I
love her better still than any other
woman; but the trouble is she will
never be still." The judge, who is a
married man himself, takes the case
under advisement.

"I don't see how there ever came
to be so many words in the world!"
exclaimed a girl who was studying
her spelling lesson. "Why, sis," said
her brother, "they come through
folks quarrelling. Then, you know,
one word always brings on another."

"Doctor," said an old lady, "do
relieve in ghosts?" "Do you be-
lieve that the dead actually walk
on this earth?" "No doubt of it, madam,"
answered the doctor, "I've repeat-
edly heard the Dead March in Saul."

According to Herschel, there are
stars so far off that light, which
travels at the rate of 200,000 miles in
a second, would require 13,000 years
to travel from those stars to the
earth.

"What I'd like to know," said a
school-boy, "is how the mouth of
rivers can be so much larger than
their heads."

Agriculture.

Milk Tests.

An interesting test was made of
the cream qualities of the milk from
the cows exhibited at the Interna-
tional Dairy Exhibition which was
held in New York City during the
first week of December, nine cows of
different breeds and grades were
milked, about 5 p. m., Dec. 5. The
test was in glass tubes $\frac{5}{8}$ inches long
and $\frac{3}{4}$ of an inch in diameter. The
cows were milked clean and the milk
was well strained and a tube filled
from each cow, the milk standing in
them 22 hours in a temperature of
53 degrees, an inch divided into 16
parts was used as a basis of a unit to
test the depth of cream. The results
were as follows:—

1st. A red polled cow yielded five
quarts of milk, dropped her calf in
April, feed, two quarts of bran and
one quart of meal per day, depth of
cream, one and one-fourth inches.

2d. Native cow, eight quarts of
milk, dropped her calf Nov. 15, feed,
six quarts of bran and six quarts of
meal, depth of cream, one and one-
fourth inches.

3d. Guernsey—seven quarts of
milk, dropped her calf middle of
September, feed, four quarts of meal
and four quarts of bran, depth of
cream one inch.

4th. Devon—three pints of milk,
dropped her calf in April, feed, four
quarts of bran, depth of cream, fifteen-
sevenths of an inch.

5th. Jersey—eight and one-half
quarts of milk, dropped her calf the
middle of September, feed, one quart
of meal and two quarts of bran, depth
of cream, three-fourths of an inch.

6th. Jersey—five and one-half quarts
of milk, dropped her calf the middle
of September, feed, four quarts of
meal and four quarts of bran, depth of
cream, three-fourths of an inch.

7th. Half Shorthorn and half Na-
tive—six and one-half quarts of milk,
dropped her calf the 11th of Novem-
ber, feed, six quarts of bran and six
quarts of meal, depth of cream, three-
fourths of an inch.

8th. Holstein—five quarts of milk,
dropped her calf the first of April,
feed, bran and roots, depth of cream,
eleven-sixteenths of an inch.

9th. Ayrshire—two quarts of milk,
dropped her calf March 20th, feed,
two quarts of oat ground, and six
quarts of bran, depth of cream, nine-
sevenths of an inch.

These results show a wide differ-
ence in the depth of cream; the
native and polled cows yielding more
than twice as much as the Ayrshire,
and nearly twice as much as the Hol-
stein—the Devon standing close with
the Guernsey, and the Jerseys and
half Shorthorn showing one-fourth
less than the Guernsey.

A correspondent of the *Country
Gentleman*, who furnished the above
facts to that paper, says:—

"The length of time since dropping
the calf to the day of trial, may have
something to do with the result. Also
there is a great difference in the
amount of grain fed, which will ad-
mit of study. Another point should
be studied, and that is the richness of
the cream in the butter qualities it
contains; though this test, important
as it is, could not be ascertained there-
fore, if at all. I will say no more
now, hoping dairymen more
than ever will test the milk from each
cow. Keep and well care for the
best, and drop out the poorest. Let
the quantity and quality of the milk
be the guide, without regard to the
particular name the cow may go by,
or the place that name originated."

Save the Manure.

Even by farmers, who should be the
ones who would realize the value there
is in it, there seems to be but an in-
different effort made to save the man-
ure, for much of its value is wasted
by not taking care of it properly or in
time, while it is so often used on such
crops as are not capable of utilizing it
to the greatest advantage or profit.
Good hen manure, from fowls which
have been liberally fed, is worth as
much as guano, for all kinds of crops
for which guano is used, and if farm-
ers and those who have small garden
patches would only realize this fact,
they would pay more attention to
collecting and saving the droppings
from their hens than they do. We do
not think there is much necessity for
cleaning the fowl house over every day
some do, but clean it out every
week, giving it a good sanding every
time it is cleaned, so as to keep the
floor clean from droppings and make
it easier to clean out when necessary.
Some sprinkle ashes, sawdust, chips,
etc., on the floors, but we consider
sand preferable, for it seems to sepa-
rate, to disintegrate, the droppings
better, soon making it by a little care
easily applied as guano or any of our
superphosphates. We always put it
into barrels as soon as it is taken up
from the chicken house floor, and con-
vey it to some dry airy place where
we let it remain until wanted for use,
when we empty it out on a heap and
work it over well before applying it
to the crops.—*Poultry Bulletin.*

Dressing Poultry.

A lady under the sobriquet of
"Grace Glean," in the *Country Gen-
tleman*, treats in a very pleasant man-
ner various household matters inter-
esting to farmers' wives and the fair
sex generally. For example:—

"Mrs. Lee came in this morning to
obtain some directions about the stuff-
ing and roasting of poultry. She
was expecting some friends to Thank-
sgiving, she said, and did not dare trust
to her own knowledge, or rather want
of it, fearing her dinner would prove
a failure if she did. We gave her the
requisite information, making it as
minute as possible, because the young
and inexperienced are sure to find mat-
ter for uncertainty and anxiety in lit-
tle things which we older ones do by
chance, or by guess as it were, or
rather in a certain way through force
of habit, thinking little and worrying
less about results."

In the first place, the dressing
should be done in a careful and pro-
per manner; the fowl dipped two or
three times in a large kettle of boiling
or nearly boiling water, and the fea-
thers gently plucked, so as not to tear
or otherwise injure the skin. Re-
move a griddle from the stove; put
an old newspaper on the fire, and
scorch off the hair in the flame. Next
make a small incision in the neck and
remove the crop, being careful not to
tear or break it, if you do not want to
endanger scenting your meat; another
in the body, also small, carefully
taking out the entrails, gizzard, liver
and heart. Also take off the neck
bone down far as you can slip the
skin, and the legs off to the knees.
Now wash thoroughly, and rub well
inside and out with salt, in which a
very little—say a third of a teaspoon-
ful of pepper has been mixed. Next
prepare the stuffing. If sufficient
quantity only is desired for one turkey
or two chickens, cut about two-thirds
of a medium-sized loaf of bread—
which should be at least three or four
days old—into thin slices. Turn over
this just enough hot milk to moisten,
being careful not to get too wet. Add
a half teaspoonful of butter—
though the quantity of this must be
regulated somewhat by the fatness or
leanness of the fowl—a small, even
teaspoonful of pulverized sage, a
half teaspoonful of salt, a sifting of
pepper, and one well-beaten egg.
Chop the heart, liver and gizzard,
which have previously been boiled
tender, and add; then mix all well to-
gether with the fingers. If too moist
add some dry bread grated fine. Fill
the body and sew up with a coarse,
soft thread. Fill the neck and tie it.
Unless you are so fortunate as to own
a patent baking-pan with cover, sew
up the fowl in a piece of coarse cotton
cloth. A young fowl will bake in a
couple of hours; but do not bake too
quickly, or the meat will be dry and
flavorless. If old, it should be par-
boiled for an hour, then stuffed and
baked three or four hours, or till
tender. If done in a common open
dripping-pan, it must be basted fre-
quently with the water in the pan,
and turned also a few times from side
to side. The cloth will allow it to be
cooked tender without burning, but
should be removed a little before the
fowl is taken from the oven, that the
outside may nicely brown. When
tender, remove to a platter, and if the
fowl be fat, and there be much oil in
the pan, turn off the most of it, and
set the pan on top of stove, and stir
in gradually a heaping tablespoonful
of flour, then a pint of hot, sweet
milk, seasoning with more salt and
pepper if it needs, let come to a boil,
then turn out at once into a bowl, or
gravy-boat, and carry to the table.

Complaints are not infrequent
among our readers, of cows and heifers
which do not breed as regularly as
would be desirable. This is one of
the vexations incident to cattle hus-
bandry which it will undoubtedly
take a long time to overcome. The
causes of non breeding are numerous,
and it is not always an easy matter
to decide upon the cause in individual
cases. In cases of twins, where there
is a male and female calf, the female
is very likely to be barren, although
such heifers do sometimes breed, es-
pecially when they possess all the
general appearance of the sex. If,
however, they have large horns, a
thick neck, and carry a marked re-
semblance to the form of a steer,
they will not breed. Again, heifers
which are not twins are not all per-
fectly developed. Such animals usu-
ally flesh up quite readily, and make
good beef with very little extra feed-
ing.

Barrenness in cows may be caused
by diseases of the generative organs
resulting from injudicious treatment
at a previous parturition, as where
the afterbirth is allowed to remain
till it rots away, causing inflamma-
tion and an irritation which becomes
chronic. Such cows sometimes paw
and roar almost constantly, when run-
ning with other cattle, and get the very
significant name of "roarers." Ac-
cording to our experience and observa-
tion, such cows are valuable only for
beef, as they are very rarely curable.
Sometimes cows are undoubtedly
made barren for the time being by
being taken to the bull too soon after
calving. In such cases, a simple rest
of a few months is all the treatment
required.

A lean cow, or other animal, may
sometimes be induced to breed by
giving better feed, thus increasing
the flesh, while an over-fleshy case
may be remedied by pursuing an op-
posite course. But, after all, it may
as well be borne in mind that there
is always a percentage of loss and
disappointment connected with every
kind of industrial pursuit. If a far-
mer sets out to raise ten cows from
ten heifer calves, and is successful in
getting eight, he may count himself
fortunate, and if five of the eight are
good ones, he has little cause for com-
plaint, although it is well to have a
high standard to strive for. It may
be a little comforting to a breeder of
cattle, that the loss is comparatively
less when heifers refuse to breed,
than if he were handling animals
commanding extravagant prices.

When valuable, pure bred animals
become so common that breeders can
afford to weed them out, and when
every inferior animal is turned into
beef as soon as the inferiority becomes
known, there will be less enquiry as
to such cases as we have mentioned
above. A promising heifer is worth
more than an old run down or sickly
cow at any time.—*New England
Farmer.*

Winter care of Sheep.

A breeder, who was for some time
with Mr. Geo. Rudd of Leighton
Lodge, Gulf, Ontario, the famous
breeder of Cotswolds and other
thoroughbred stock, describes the way
he cared for his sheep in winter
time:—

"We fed pea straw, clover hay,
swede turnips, oats, peas and bran.
The feed in the morning consisted of
clover hay as much as they would eat
without wasting, fed in racks, and
about six pounds of cut swedes per
sheep, and at noon half a pint of bran,
one-third pint of oats, and one-third
pint of peas each for breeding ewes,
and a little more for shearlings. At
evening they got their feed of swedes
and a rackful of pea straw, with al-
ways plenty of litter, which consisted
of the refuse pea straw to keep them
dry and clean, in their sheds and
yards. They had, of course as much
water and salt as they would use.
Care must be taken not to feed too
much grain to breeding ewes; from
one-half to two-thirds of a pint per
day of corn will be sufficient for a
good sized ewe. Of course for fatten-
ing sheep, considerable more will be
required. Sheep require and must
have considerable coarse feed. Breed-
ing ewes and young sheep must also
have plenty of exercise, but for fatten-
ing, they can scarcely be confined in
too small a space, provided they are
kept clean."

A farmer of Wisconsin wrote the
other day to the editor of the *Country
Gentleman*, enquiring how much corn
he should feed, to feed a lot of sheep
he was fattening for spring. He
said, that he had never fed any sheep
before, and he would like to give
them all they would eat, but had
doubts to the wisdom of such a course.
The editor answered:—

Begin by feeding them a gill each
per day, and increase gradually until
a pint each is fed. It will not then
hurt them to feed them all they will
eat, but they should be sufficiently
fattened by spring on a pint of corn
each, and with good clover hay.

Cattle and hogs are dying at a fearful
rate in Iowa, the former from
smut in the cornstalks and the latter
from cholera. Hundreds of farmers
have lost every hog they possessed.

There are marine plants which grow
up three hundred feet from the bot-
tom of the sea.

Non-breeding and Shy-breeding Cows.

Complaints are not infrequent
among our readers, of cows and heifers
which do not breed as regularly as
would be desirable. This is one of
the vexations incident to cattle hus-
bandry which it will undoubtedly
take a long time to overcome. The
causes of non breeding are numerous,
and it is not always an easy matter
to decide upon the cause in individual
cases. In cases of twins, where there
is a male and female calf, the female
is very likely to be barren, although
such heifers do sometimes breed, es-
pecially when they possess all the
general appearance of the sex. If,
however, they have large horns, a
thick neck, and carry a marked re-
semblance to the form of a steer,
they will not breed. Again, heifers
which are not twins are not all per-
fectly developed. Such animals usu-
ally flesh up quite readily, and make
good beef with very little extra feed-
ing.

Barrenness in cows may be caused
by diseases of the generative organs
resulting from injudicious treatment
at a previous parturition, as where
the afterbirth is allowed to remain
till it rots away, causing inflamma-
tion and an irritation which becomes
chronic. Such cows sometimes paw
and roar almost constantly, when run-
ning with other cattle, and get the very
significant name of "roarers." Ac-
cording to our experience and observa-
tion, such cows are valuable only for
beef, as they are very rarely curable.
Sometimes cows are undoubtedly
made barren for the time being by
being taken to the bull too soon after
calving. In such cases, a simple rest
of a few months is all the treatment
required.

A lean cow, or other animal, may
sometimes be induced to breed by
giving better feed, thus increasing
the flesh, while an over-fleshy case
may be remedied by pursuing an op-
posite course. But, after all, it may
as well be borne in mind that there
is always a percentage of loss and
disappointment connected with every
kind of industrial pursuit. If a far-
mer sets out to raise ten cows from
ten heifer calves, and is successful in
getting eight, he may count himself
fortunate, and if five of the eight are
good ones, he has little cause for com-
plaint, although it is well to have a
high standard to strive for. It may
be a little comforting to a breeder of
cattle, that the loss is comparatively
less when heifers refuse to breed,
than if he were handling animals
commanding extravagant prices.

When valuable, pure bred animals
become so common that breeders can
afford to weed them out, and when
every inferior animal is turned into
beef as soon as the inferiority becomes
known, there will be less enquiry as
to such cases as we have mentioned
above. A promising heifer is worth
more than an old run down or sickly
cow at any time.—*New England
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beef, as they are very rarely curable.
Sometimes cows are undoubtedly
made barren for the time being by
being taken to the bull too soon after
calving. In such cases, a simple rest
of a few months is all the treatment
required.

A lean cow, or other animal, may
sometimes be induced to breed by
giving better feed, thus increasing
the flesh, while an over-fleshy case
may be remedied by pursuing an op-
posite course. But, after all, it may
as well be borne in mind that there
is always a percentage of loss and
disappointment connected with every
kind of industrial pursuit. If a far-
mer sets out to raise ten cows from
ten heifer calves, and is successful in
getting eight, he may count himself
fortunate, and if five of the eight are
good ones, he has little cause for com-
plaint, although it is well to have a
high standard to strive for. It may
be a little comforting to a breeder of
cattle, that the loss is comparatively
less when heifers refuse to breed,
than if he were handling animals
commanding extravagant prices.

When valuable, pure bred animals
become so common that breeders can
afford to weed them out, and when
every inferior animal is turned into
beef as soon as the inferiority becomes
known, there will be less enquiry as
to such cases as we have mentioned
above. A promising heifer is worth
more than an old run down or sickly
cow at any time.—*New England
Farmer.*

Complaints are not infrequent
among our readers, of cows and heifers
which do not breed as regularly as
would be desirable. This is one of
the vexations incident to cattle hus-
bandry which it will undoubtedly
take a long time to overcome. The
causes of non breeding are numerous,
and it is not always an easy matter
to decide upon the cause in individual
cases. In cases of twins, where there
is a male and female calf, the female
is very likely to be barren, although
such heifers do sometimes breed, es-
pecially when they possess all the
general appearance of the sex. If,
however, they have large horns, a
thick neck, and carry a marked re-
semblance to the form of a steer,
they will not breed. Again, heifers
which are not twins are not all per-
fectly developed. Such animals usu-
ally flesh up quite readily, and make
good beef with very little extra feed-
ing.

Barrenness in cows may be caused
by diseases of the generative organs
resulting from injudicious treatment
at a previous parturition, as where
the afterbirth is allowed to remain
till it rots away, causing inflamma-
tion and an irritation which becomes
chronic. Such cows sometimes paw
and roar almost constantly, when run-
ning with other cattle, and get the very
significant name of "roarers." Ac-
cording to our experience and observa-
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