

FARM AND DAIRY.

This column is devoted to agricultural subjects, and the editors will be grateful to farmers if they will use it for the intelligent discussion of matters pertaining to their important calling.

Prepare for the Garden.

A correspondent of the Ohio Farmer urges early preparation for the summer's gardening. He says that little can be done during the next two months in the way of garden work, but preparations may be made to be ready when the time comes to plant that no delays will interfere with the work. It is a good time to study the seed catalogues and make selections of seeds. The novelties of last year have been tried and if they appear in any considerable numbers of the catalogues it is fair to presume that they are of value and though the price may be a little high a package or two may prove a good investment. I was one of the few who invested in dwarf lima beans the first year they were offered and I sold all I grew to a seedsman at twenty-five cents a quart and he would have taken more at the same price. It is time well spent to study catalogues pretty closely for most of them give cultural directions and information about varieties that are of value in practical work. The garden tools may be put in order and made ready for instant use and the hot bed sashes and frames made so as to take advantage of the first warm days. I have found that the great difficulty in growing garden stuff is the large amount of hard work that is necessary when the gardens are made up as they usually are in a patchy manner so as to make it impossible to take a horse into them.

My garden is four rods wide and twenty long, containing half an acre. In this everything is planted in rows that run entirely across the garden north and south. Of these sorts, that a row would be too much for our own use, put different things in a row. I will have one row of peas but there will be several varieties in the row. And it may be that onions, lettuce, radishes and beets will be all in a single row, but the rows run across the lot so a horse can be taken in to cultivate it. It is not good economy to plant a garden so as to make it necessary to do all the work by hand as experience has taught me when this is done there is always more or less neglect observable, and a good many times the indications point to an abandonment of the whole garden to weeds. If this plan of planting in rows is adopted there is a great saving of time and labor and more thorough cultivation is possible. If land is high priced and one has but small space to spare, such vegetables as onions, lettuce, beets, radishes, etc., may be sown in beds as usual on one side of the lot and cultivated by hand, while corn, squashes, sweet potatoes, early potatoes, etc., may be planted in rows. Do not be afraid to manure the garden heavily nor of working it too much, as stirring the soil frequently is one of the secrets of a good garden.

Dry Fodder for Dairy Cows.

The quantity of dry fodder given to a cow may be fifteen to twenty pounds daily. It depends on what other food is given, as if

part of the food is ensilage, or roots, or much grain is given less hay will be needed. But if hay and grain are used, the feed may be ten pounds of each, or two-thirds of hay and one-third meal. It is best to have the ground as finely as possible, and the food is best digested when the hay is cut into chaff and wetted and the meal mixed with it. The food is better masticated; and this first digestive process when best done, aids the other digestive organs to do the work.

Feeding Milch Cows.

One of the important items in securing the best profit from the cows is to have an even flow of milk well maintained throughout the season. On many farms there are cows that for a short season after they come in fresh yield a good flow of milk, but this soon begins to fail, especially if care is not taken in feeding and management, and at the end of seven or eight months the quantity they give is so small that they are allowed to go dry. Many cows are kept that if charged a fair price for their food they would not pay for their keep.

The first important item is to have good cows. Then they must be well fed even, in summer. While during growing season the pastures can be largely relied upon; it will pay also to give a light feed of bran and corn-meal, or bran and middlings. Then in order to make sure of a good supply of cheap food it will also be a good plan to plant some crop like sweet corn, millet, sorghum, or something of this kind that can be used at any time when needed. There should be a change of feed occasionally, so as to keep the cow with a good appetite, as the more good food the good dairy cow consumes the more good milk she will give. It will also be a good plan to divide the pastures so that she can be changed from one to the other at least every ten days. The cows will do much better than if they are compelled to depend upon one pasture. Besides, by changing, there will be less waste to feed. With all there is a natural inclination to eat the tender, sweet growth, and in doing this, when kept in one pasture, there will grow up manure seed. By dividing up the pastures and changing from one to the other, grass will all be eaten down more evenly. There should always be sweet, nutritious grasses in the pastures, so that the cows can get enough to satisfy their appetites without tramping too long or too far. The quieter and more comfortable the cows can keep the better the results. Feed to keep the cow in a good thrifty condition. It is not possible to make a good dairy cow fat, but good treatment will keep her in good condition. Her food will be converted into milk rather than flesh.—*St. Louis Republic.*

Why Good Roads Are Needed.

The wheelmen have taken the lead in demanding good country roads, and the construction of proper roads will remove one of the chief objections to country residence. Well-graded, smooth roads, properly drained, and well cared for, are a public interest that demands universal attention. They are a prime factor of civilization.—*Review of Reviews.*

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Declined With Thanks.

The following is said to be an extract translation of the letter sent by a Chinese editor to a would-be contributor, whose manuscript he found it necessary to return: "Illustrious brother of the sun and moon—Behold thy servant prostrate before thy feet. I kowtow to thee, and beg that of thy graciousness thou mayst grant that I may speak and live. Thy honoured manuscript has deigned to cast the light of its august countenance upon us. With raptures we have perused it. By the bones of my ancestors, never have I encountered such wit, such pathos, such lofty thought. With fear and trembling I return the writing. Were I to publish the treasure you sent me, the Emperor would order it should be made the standard, and that none be published except such as equalled it. Knowing literature as I do, and that it would be impossible in ten thousand years to equal what you have done. I send your writing back. Ten thousand times I crave your pardon. Behold, my head is at your feet. Do what you will. Your servant's servant, The Editor."—*New York Times.*

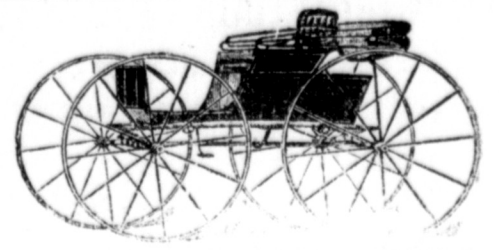
Secrets Will Out.

"Now, you must not let this go any farther," said Watts to McDavid after retailing a choice bit of scandal.
"Oh, certainly not, said McDavid. "How did you happen to hear it?"
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—*Tit-Bits.*

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- 5 Sacks Filberts,
- 25 Boxes Oranges,
- 15 Boxes Dates,
- 50 Pks Confectionery
- 5 Sacks Brazil Nuts,
- 2 Sacks Almonds,

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The strong and vigorous testimony of Mrs. J. Wickett, of 169 Oak Street, Toronto, should fill the fainting and despairing hearts of all sufferers with fresh hope and confidence, and should at once lead every sickly person to the only medicine that makes people well.

Mrs. Wickett's letter reads as follows:—"Last year, in the month of November, I was suddenly taken very ill with pleurisy and neuralgia. The pains in my shoulders and back were most intense, and caused me extreme suffering. For several weeks I was under the doctor's care, and gradually recovered from the attack of pleurisy, but none

of the medicines prescribed for me seemed to have any effect on the neuralgia which had, by this time, spread all over my body.

I gradually became worse; my appetite was poor, and the pain never seemed to leave me for an instant. My life was becoming a burden to me, and I began to think I would never recover. I grew discouraged with the medicine I was taking, and happening to see a testimonial in the newspaper about Paine's Celery Compound, I concluded to get a bottle, although I had very little faith in patent medicines.

Before I had finished my first bottle, I began to feel better, the pains and soreness greatly decreased, and gaining hope by my improved health, I finished the first bottle and bought a second.

After using two bottles of your Compound, I feel like a new woman; my appetite has returned, the neuralgia has left me, and I am as well as ever. I feel very thankful for the benefit I have derived from your medicine, and take pleasure in recommending it to my friends. Should any one desire fuller particulars, if they will communicate with me, I will be happy to oblige them."