

FARMING MATTERS.

HINTS-USEFUL TO THE FARMER.

Feeding Poultry.

Prof. G. F. R. Bellows, of Ypsilanti, who raises poultry as a diversion and relaxation after the mental labor incident to getting up abstract geometrical problems to worry Normal students, and who yet is very business-like in his poultry business, tells the Poultry Breeder how he manages the feeding problem:

"My method of feeding varies so much that I can hardly describe it. In the main it is as follows: Soft feeding in the morning, made up of corn and ground oats one part, wheat bran two parts, mixed with boiling water.

"A light feed at noon consisting of scraps from the house, green stuff, etc., into which twice or three times a week is put also a little meat. At night I feed the young birds corn, and the old ones wheat and oats, changing from one to the other from day to day, with an occasional feed of corn."

"Twice or three times a week a kettle of boiled potatoes goes in the morning feed. As the pullets mature I lighten upon the corn as a regular feed, substituting wheat and oats."

"The above is the basis of my feeding, but I would say that in that connection consider that variety and not uniformity is the spice of chicken life."

EGGS IN COLD WEATHER.

The art of feeding may well be applied to poultry in winter, if eggs are expected. True, feeding is an ordinary matter, but how many consider what they are trying to accomplish when feeding? There should always be some object in view, and the feeding, if properly done, should conform to the realization of that which is sought. We said the "art" of feeding, for feeding is quite an art, and has science to keep it company. What do we feed to secure? Eggs—and in so doing we must look into the egg. We see it well-filled with rich, nutritious substances, and of a variety. Then we must adapt the food to the egg. If the hen is kept warm and comfortable, the food required to provide her with animal heat will be correspondingly lessened. Knowing that the food should contain an excess of the carbonaceous, or heat-producing elements, we look to those substances that furnish the albumen. All foods contain these, but they vary in proportion. When she farmer throws down corn and feeds his hens liberally he may secure but few eggs, as he is then feeding for the market, and not for eggs. A fat hen will not lay, and is as unprofitable as a fat sow for breeding.

What the hens most need is nitrogenous matter, for they can, if fed any grain at all, easily provide the yolk, lime, phosphoric acid, etc., but the large amount of albumen in an egg calls for more nitrogenous food than is usually allowed. Some, improperly, ascribe the failure to secure eggs to a lack of green food. While some kind of bulky food (such as clover hay, chopped fine and scalded, as well as cooked potato and turnip) is excellent, yet the great desideratum is animal food, and if less grain be fed and more meat, either raw or cooked, there will be more eggs. Milk and curds are also suitable, but meat is better than anything else. As a pound of meat daily will be sufficient for a dozen hens, and almost any kind of meat will do, the expense is a small matter compared to the high prices obtained for eggs in winter. It is not necessary to feed grain more than once a day. A morning meal of scalded, chopped hay, with some kind of animal food, and wheat at night, will give more eggs, if the hen house is kept warm, than any other method, and it will be cheaper than feeding three times a day on grain. A pan of warm water in the morning should always be allowed.

ONLY FIVE SHEEP.

A man who is farming and does not make a few sheep is almost as bad off as if he had no poultry; yet few people can imagine how profitable a few sheep are. The following is an example, based upon so insignificant a number as five head, yet the result is in no way unsatisfactory. The item is from the Eagle Optic, of Larned, Kansas:

"Mr. J. P. Kelly, living four miles west of this town, is an example of what live thrift may accomplish in this regard. Less than four years ago this gentleman came to Pawnee County from his Michigan home, bringing with him, in addition to the usual outfit of the granger, five sheep of the Shropshire variety. Friends told him he was foolish for bothering with the sheep, and while he never disputed his friends, yet he held right on to his sheep. In something over three years he has sold \$10,000 worth of wool and increased from his little flock, and now he has a flock of 26 sheep for which G. H. Wadsworth, Pawnee county's veteran sheep man, lets him \$100 in cash and the offer of a new sheep pen."

"The sheep," Mr. Kelly. This beats running a newspaper, and if you will figure out the per cent. of gain it will be found that there are but few lines of business that pay as well.

This year he raised sixteen lambs from eleven ewes, this breed of sheep being famous for twins and triplets. When the owner of these sheep remarked to us last spring that he would not trade his best ewe for the finest cow in Pawnee county, we thought him somewhat extravagant, but these facts and figures convince us that he was pretty well headed. Any intelligent farmer may find food for reflection in the above."

Young Lady (confidentially, to guide in foreign art gallery)—Is there any way for the uninitiated to distinguish between an old master and a modern painting? Guide—Yes, madam. If the people in the picture have clothes on it's by an old master.

Mr. Lushforth—You never help me on with my coat-like you used to in the days of our honeymoon. Mrs. Lushforth—Not And I never had to help you off with your boots in those days, either.

Mrs. Fung—I wonder why Dr. Fourthly always has his sermons type-written? Mr. Fourthly—Out of pure gratitude. You don't know how the invention has boomed the matrimonial market!

FEROCITY OF FIGHTERS.

Men who have faced John L. Sullivan claim that when in the heat of battle he has a most awful expression on his face, and stout hearts have quailed at sight of it. Paddy Ryan said, after his battle for the championship with the big fellow, that when he looked at Sullivan, toward the close of the fight he almost feared for his life, as there was the expression of a murderer on Sullivan's face. Others have said that they could not bear to look at the champion's face when boxing with him, lest their courage forsake them. There are those who attribute the big fellow's success in part to the awful terror inspired by his glare.

Peter Jackson, according to all accounts seems to possess the same savage expression at times.

Major Frank McLaughlin, one of the prime movers in the California Club, to which Jackson is under contract, speaking of this a few days ago, said:

"He is the 'colored Billy Edwards,' I claim, in this respect—that while a fighter he is a gentleman, a man of polish and culture. Jackson is jet black, but he has nothing of the distinctively negro features. In the heat of a fight at a crisis he looks more like a tiger than a man."

Major Jackson to me on one occasion, 'my boy is the heart blow,' and there he shows his sense. 'He is an anatomist, and he knows the position of every bone and muscle in the human body as accurately as any surgeon.' He doesn't batter up his hands and break his fingers with the blow at the point of the jaw or on the chin. His knock-out blow is the heart blow, which will kill a man if he fights long enough. That was the famous blow of the great Welsh black who generations ago made such an awe-inspiring reputation that he was called the 'Dead Boxer.' Jim Smith, Godfrey, Joe McLaughlin and Patsy Cardiff have all been induced by the tremendous force of his blows to throw up one hand in utter exhaustion, and hold on with the other to the ropes in dumb agony. Let his opponent feel him or get in a blow on him that hurts him, and the expression of Jackson's face becomes so savage as to be startling. Then, and then only for a moment, does the innate ferocity, the animal brutality which no one would think him capable of, come to the surface. As if ashamed himself of such an exhibition, no sooner has he reduced his antagonist to helplessness than he asks, in the politest manner possible, 'Have you got enough, sir?' He is the polished gentleman again.

OYSTERS ON TREES.

Business recently called me to Honduras and I have just now returned, well pleased with my trip. I had often heard of oysters growing on the trunks and branches of trees—groves of living green umbrageous trees, with oysters growing upon them—and my friend and I set aside the day to investigate the fact. Our dory cut the water like a knife and slipped along rapidly and easily, with hardly a ripple in her wake, and in about half-an-hour we had lost sight of the town, with its convent and surrounding mountains, and were behind us. We were then nearly abreast of an island called Moho Cave. The front of it is embowered in graceful coconut trees and the back part trends off into a swamp and is covered with a dense grove of the red mangrove. This mangrove tree grows in either fresh or salt water swamps, and even in water three or four feet deep. The limbs of the trees send shoots of roots down into the water, and thus a thicket of mangroves is a matted mass of trunks and limbs and roots. On these trunks and limbs and roots, deep down under the surface of the water, cling bunches of single oysters, and thus are formed the oyster groves I had heard of. The leaves of these trees are of a beautiful dark green, and the swamp islands from a distance look like fairy bowers.

We poked our dory around to the south of the island, but could not get very near, as we were scraping bottom all the time. We passed over numerous oyster-beds while doing so, and with an ordinary rake which had been provided we hauled aboard a lot of the oysters. They were small and flat, and the shell looked more like a flat clam than an oyster. But the inside tasted all right, and our boatman swallowed that down with a relish. I did not care much for them myself, except as curiosities, for the usual flat shells to them did not smell appetizing.

"Lot journeyed wearily on," said the person, "with the fate of his poor wife fresh in his memory. 'How could that be,' his little son asked him after the sermon, 'when she was salt?'"

A good many people publicly thank the Lord for their prosperity who would be mad if somebody should suggest that they were not mainly responsible for it themselves.

"Ma, the minister is coming." "What makes you think so? Did you see him?" "No; but I saw pa take the parrot and lock it up in the stable."

If spectacles could be fitted to men whose minds are short-sighted there would be less poverty, and possibly not so much crime in the world.

A customs official at Kingston picked up on the street what he supposed to be a glass stone, but which turned out to be a diamond worth \$700.

A monster hog, weighing 1,050 pounds, was shipped from Weyland the other day to New York city, where it will be placed on exhibition.

The Winnipeg Evening Sun has been sold for \$40,000 to a company with ex-Superintendent of Education Somerset as president.

Eulogies pronounced in celebration of the virtues of the departed may be characterized as foam on the funeral bier.

Respectability is contagious, but, like other contagions, you can't always catch it when you want it.

Unlike the majority of things in this queer world fog are always mist until they are gone.

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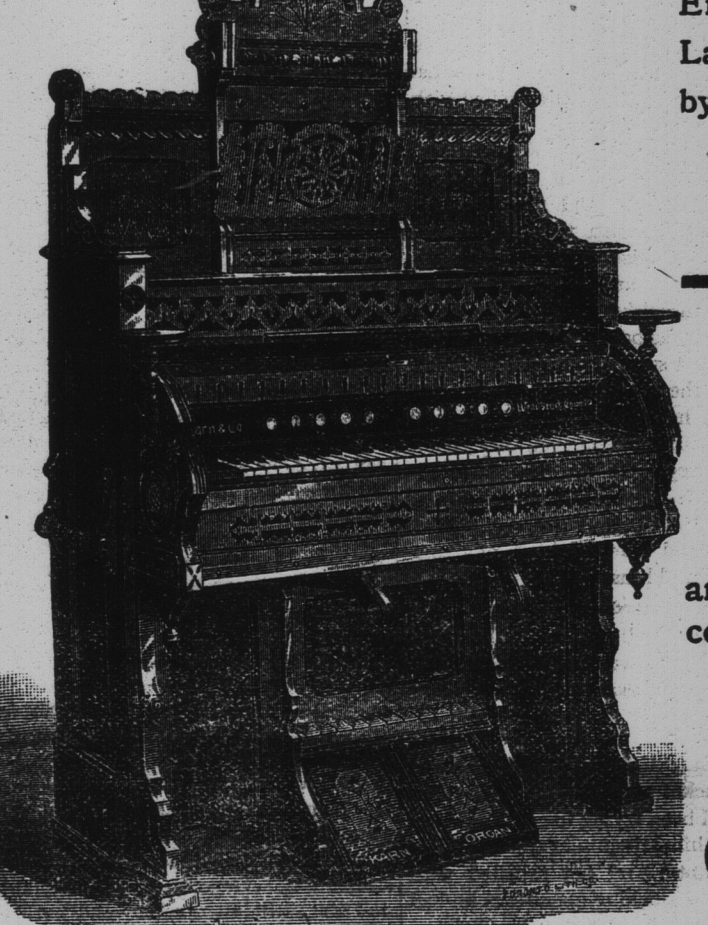
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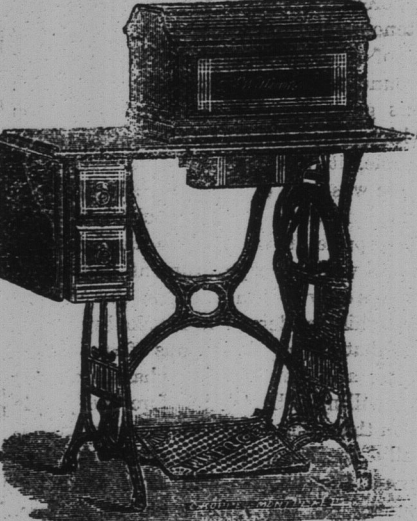
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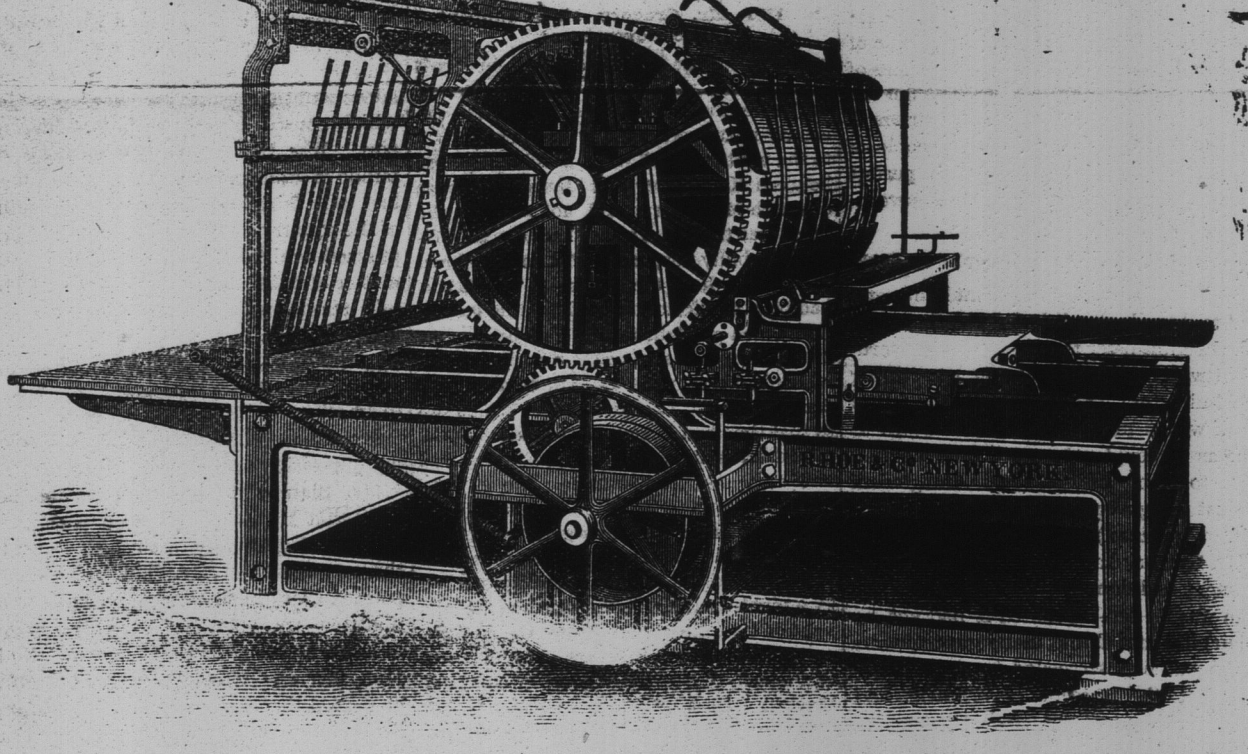
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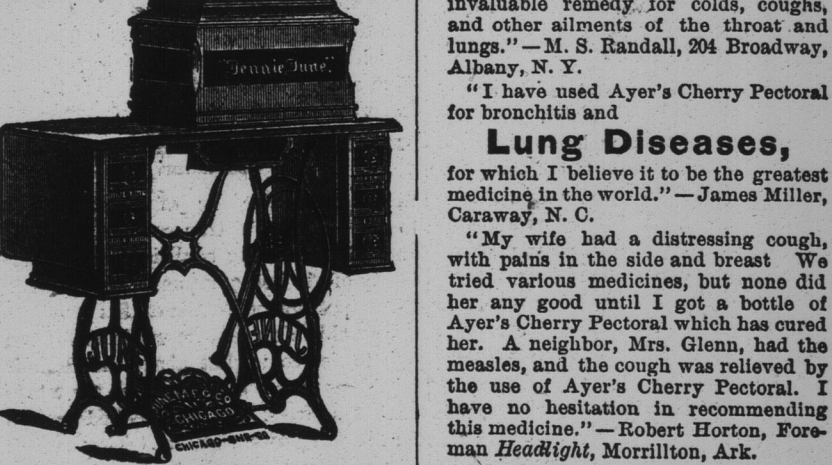
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