THE FARM.

ENSILAGE IN ONTARIO.—A correspondent writes to the *Country Gentleman* in reply to enquiries about ensilage. The editor writes in reply :—Last May I commenced to build a silo 33 feet long by 12 feet wide and 12 feet deep inside, opening into the barn. I intended to build the walls with stone but the mason, from ill health, gave up the job, and we built the walls five feet high with stone, then studded seven feet, and lined outside and inside with matched siding, filling the space with sawdust. The wall was 18 inches thick and about four feet under ground. September 5th we began to put in about twenty tons of millet, which took about four days. By this time it was as hot as I ever saw hay. Although we had tramped it very thoroughly we could not pack it. We put in about sixty-six tons of corn fodder, grown in drills three feet apart. There were a good many ears well set with soft corn. The stalks were green and very full of life. We cut it three quarters of an inch long, and, though coarse, it packed quite solid. We put in about twenty inches per day, and the heat of the millet was felt no more, the corn remaining quite cool.

We had arranged to press it with sixs-crews, placed at equal distances along the centre. The iron rods were 1½ inch in diameter, with 2 feet of flat screw at the top. These were secured at the bottom to an oak scantling, bedded in the clay, and covered with inch boards. The top was also covered with boards. The blocks for the screws were six feet long, resting upon three tiers of scantling. The screws were turned two or three times a day at first, but in about a week there was more little settling. We opened the silo November 1st. We have been feeding nearly three months. Both corn and millet are in good condition, except at the stone wall. The wall is uneven, and while settling admits air at the board lining. Where the surface is smooth it is fresh to the boarding. At the bottom it is quite mouldy from 2 to 4 inches, and in one spot the force of the screw had broken the scantling where the rod had passed through, and bulged the boards up about 3 inches. Here there was a mouldy clot 10 inches up the rod ; the bottom was somewhat uneven, and the boards, not being close, retained air, and this, I have no doubt, assisted the fermentation in the millet. This year I will take out the boards and put in a cement floor and plaster the stone wall smooth and divide it at the centre, making two rooms 16½ by 12 feet. I will fill one with clover when in full bloom in June, the other in September with corn. I will then be able to fill it in half the time and commence the pressure before active fermentation begins. The pressure is, no doubt, a necessity to success; and with no space to admit or retain air, success is certain if the pressure is sufficient. Whatever packs the best will require the least weight ; green clover and peas would pack solid with half the weight that would be required for timothy or millet.

The new system has a great advantage over the old in curing clover and corn. Clover in full bloom is hard to cure perfectly into hay ; it soon wastes by exposure to sun and dew, and if in cock will not turn the rain. No amount of care can insure us good clover hay. We are at the mercy of the weather, and corn, even if well cured in the shock, gets dry and corky in the stacks and mouldy at the joints. It is hard to stack so that it will keep. If left in the field (as it almost invariably is), hens, geese, turkeys, pigs, and cattle often disturb the shocks. The weather then completes the ruin, and if perchance it escapes from poultry and stock it will freeze with ice and snow so that it is handled slowly and with great discomfort. We think that corn can be put into the silo as cheap as into good shocks ; the field is then clear for the plough, and the fodder is safe from danger by stock or weather ; in convenient shape to feed, with all its elements in a digestible condition, and relished by all kinds of stock.

I am fattening thirteen steers over four years old. I had oats and barley grown together. This is cut fine and mixed equal bulk with ensilage and sprinkled with four or five pounds of meal to each steer per day. This is a light grain ration, and I think the steers are gaining as fast as if fed ten pounds of meal with hay. They look pump and glossy, with no disposition to bloat, as they frequently do on corn-meal and hay. I keep only three cows, all are milking well, with the same ration as the steers, except six quarts of bran instead of the meal. I might have given a detailed account of the expense of building and filling the silo, but may refer to that at some future time.

A HORSE THAT HAS EATEN TOO MUCH GRAIN.—He should have a dose of physic at once, water allowed in very small quanities ; all food kept from him for a period varying from 6 to 18 hours, depending upon the amount he had gorged. Walking exercise should be given. When food is given it must be bran well wetted, and this continued, including hay and grain, until the bowels respond to physic. If pain is evinced; mustard, ¾ lb; hot water (not scalding) sufficient to make a fluid that will pour easily and not be thin or watery ; this is all to be rubbed on the abdomen, covering a space from the sheath half-way to the forelegs, and rubbed in well on both sides of the abdomen. Also give anodynes. Never take a horse to work that has been overfed. Give physic and exercise, and small quantities of water often, with bran diet until the bowels are relieved ; then get back to dry feed and begin work. Never trot a horse, or, what is worse, run him, when his stomach is overloaded. Overfeeding is often a fatal accident. —*Country Gentleman.*

A New-Jersey farmer has found that a dressing of eight bushels of salt per acre to land badly infested with white grubs enabled him to raise good crops of corn for three years past, which was impossible previous to this application.

SCIENCE.

Two Colorado miners have struck the richest gold mine yet found. The claim is located on Mount Sharon and yields $1,000 to the ton in pure gold. The miners thereaway are wild with excitement.

A bed of combustible shale has been discovered in Iowa. The shale has been tried in coal stoves, and is found to work satisfactorily. It burns freely in the open air, and trial is to be made of it as a fuel for locomotives.

A buried forest has been discovered in Colorado, about twenty-five miles from Denver. The trees are all petrified and agatized, and are buried at depths of from ten to twenty feet. It is thought that with proper machinery they could be unearthed nearly or quite whole.

It is expected that with the new machinery recently designed by the engineers in charge, the tunnel under the English Channel will soon be completed. The apparatus is now pushing forward at the rate of twelve yards per day of seventeen hours.

Sir John Lubbock, says, that bees are, in some degrees, sensitive to color, and that their favorite color is blue.

Spiders have been seen as small as a grain of sand, and these spin a thread so fine that it takes four thousand of them put together to equal in size a single hair.

Insects are proportionately stronger than animals. A cockchafer can draw a load fourteen times greater than h s body ; a bee twenty times ; an ant thirty times.

Dare not sleep in that condition in which thou darest not die.

Every character is the joint product of nature and nurture.

What is the proper use of religion? To live by. The sun was made to see by, not to look at.

Temperance.

More for Tobacco than for Bread.

A poor man sat at the close of the year,
Smoking the sad hours away ;
Wondering if ever the sky would get clear,
In the dawn of a brighter day.

"I've worked," said he, "like a dog all my days,
Always been honest and just ;
Others have prospered in all their ways,
While I am reduced to a crust.

My poor wife has delved from morning till night,
Sharing the very worst fare ;
Our children are in the raggedest plight,
And we but an inch from despair.

O God ! my poor heart has so often said,
Can there be true justice here ?
One overloaded with all that is good,
Another *must* poverty bear !"

Justice! poor man, is it justice you claim?
It will most certainly come ;
For worse than all the evils you name,
Has been your attachment to Rum.

Justice ! poor man, the most terrible blast,
Will smite thy shelterless head :
For of all thy hard earnings, thou hast
Spent more for Tobacco than Bread.

A recent visitor to the Modoc Indians in the Indian Territory found them in the front rank of progress in the temperance movement—the sale of intoxicating liquors entirely prohibited, and the name of every man and woman, and of every child old enough to sign, on the temperance pledge.

A liquor-dealers in a Massachussetts town received a postal-card signed, 'Justice,' and reading: 'Mr ——, Westfield. Please attend the funeral of a man whom you have tried to kill for the last ten years.'

Tobacco dealers in Mississippi cannot sell tobacco to minors without the consent of their parents or guardians, if the bill passed by the House becomes a law.

VARIETIES.

Bits of Rhyme.

'Tis weary watching wave by wave,
And yet the tide heaves onward ;
We climb like corals, grave by grave,
But pave a path that's sunward.
We're beaten back in many a fray,
But newer strength we borrow,
And where the vanguard camps to-day
The rear shall rest to morrow.

WHITTIER.

Each one of us is ready
With voice and pen to teach,
But we are seldom willing
To practice all we preach.

HELEN ERWIN.

From the cold embrace of Winter,
Like a laughing maiden,
Spring on noiseless feet advances,
Fresh with beauties laden.
At her coming icy fetters
Break, and murmuring waters flow ;
Nature from her slumber walking
Breathes in music sweet and low.

CHANGE OF FORTUNE.

When Fortune smiles and looks serene,
'Tis "Pray, sir, how d'ye do?
Your family are well, I hope :
Can I serve them or you?"

But if, perchance, her scale should turn,
And with it change your plight,
'Tis then, "I'm sorry for your fate,
But times are hard—Good night"

A dog that hears through an ear trumpet and wears spectacles, belongs to Patrick Nicholas, of Milwaukee, Wis. This animal is said to be thirty-five years of age, and has lost his hearing and sight, and his master for many years of fidelity, procured these aids to cheer him. A set of artificial teeth is also being made for him.

The editor of an American paper recently insisted that poets must be brief. He received a composition entitled 'The Ballad of the Merchant.' 'Trust—Bust.'

Dr. Holland once said that 'the greatest blessing that a young man can enjoy is poverty.' Still, it is one of those blessings that 'brighten as they take their flight.'

A little boy once called out to his father, who had mounted his horse for a journey, 'Good-bye papa : I love you thirty miles long!' A little sister quickly added, 'Good-bye, dear papa : you will never ride to the end of my love!'

Is a compound of the virtues of sarsaparilla, stillingia, mandrake, yellow dock, with the iodide of potash and iron, all powerful blood-making, blood-cleansing, and life-sustaining elements. It is the purest, safest, and most effectual alterative medicine known or available to the public. The sciences of medicine and chemistry have never produced so valuable a remedy, nor one so potent to cure all diseases resulting from impure blood. It cures **Scrofula** and all **scrofulous diseases, Erysipelas, Rose, or St. Anthony's Fire, Pimples and Face-grubs, Pustules, Blotches, Boils, Tumors, Tetter, Humors, Salt Rheum, Scald-head, Ring-worm, Ulcers, Sores, Rheumatism, Mercurial Disease, Neuralgia, Female Weaknesses and Irregularities, Jaundice, Affections of the Liver, Dyspepsia, Emaciation, and General Debility.**

By its searching and cleansing qualities it purges out the foul corruptions which contaminate the blood and cause derangement and decay. It stimulates and enlivens the vital functions, promotes energy and strength, restores and preserves health, and infuses new life and vigor throughout the whole system. No sufferer from any disease which arises from impurity of the blood need despair who will give AYER'S SARSAPARILLA a fair trial.

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Agents wanted.
July 13.

"Photography."

PARTIES living in the country who intend visiting Halifax on business or pleasure, should visit the Studio of the HALIFAX PHOTOGRAPHIC COMPANY, corner of BARRINGTON & PRINCE STREETS. If time is limited, a sitting can be secured by Postal Card in advance, so that no time will be lost. Photographs taken at this establishment mailed to any address free of charge.
Feb. 2.

SAVE THE NATION!

For it is sadly too true that thousands of children are STARVED TO DEATH every year by improper or insufficient food. Remember,

RIDGE'S FOOD
FOR
INFANTS AND INVALIDS,

Is all and a great deal more than we have claimed for it. It is simply a HIGHLY NUTRITIOUS and easily assimilated FOOD, grateful to the most delicate and irritable stomach, and especially adapted for the INFANT and GROWING CHILD.

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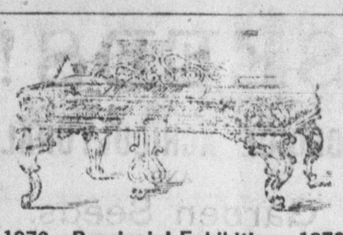

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