

# Agricultural News and Views.

## FARM TOPICS.

**GOOD COMBINATION FEED.** The results of experiments at the Utah Station show that skim milk when fed in combination with grain, makes a very valuable food for hogs at all periods of their growth, but particularly during the early stages.

**EXCHANGE VISITS.** Every farming community should be a social neighborhood; that is, every farmer and his family should be on good terms with his neighbors, and frequently exchange visits. This is a matter of great importance, but it is to frequently neglected.

**TO KEEP OUT SKIPPERS.** To keep skippers out of meat, first dip the meat in hot, boiling water and let it stay long enough to count five; take it out and rub it well with a mixture of black ground pepper and sifted corn meal. One cup of black pepper to two cups of meal, rub well while wet and hang up. It ought to be done the first week of March.

**CELLULOSE PRODUCT.** The experiments of the Maryland Experiment Station show that the "new corn product" (this is the corn fodder with the pith removed), is much more digestible than either shredded corn fodder, finely ground corn fodder, or corn blades and husks. It was also found more digestible than timothy. The experiments state that "The results prove the new corn product to be a valuable cattle and horse food and in no sense should it be considered a waste product."

**TO FORCE ASPARAGUS.** A common method of forcing asparagus is by transplanting roots to some warm place, when the shoots will grow from the vitality stored in the roots. This however ruins the roots and they must be discarded. A simple method of overcoming this wastefulness is to place half barrels over clumps of asparagus in the field and pile fermenting manure about them, when the warmth from the manure will force the shoots into rapid growth.

**SIX SOWS ENOUGH.** Six good brood sows are enough for the average farmer to keep, and they should be kept as long as they will raise six good pigs. Manage them so they will give two litters a year, making in all 72 hogs per year. One man can raise that many hogs and enough corn to feed them to a 300 pound weight. These at average prices, would bring \$900, or about \$50 a month the year round, on hogs alone; besides the revenue from his poultry, cattle, horses and sheep, which he ought to keep to use all the rough feed on the farm.

**CASTORIA.** Bears the Signature of *Chat. H. Fletcher*  
The Kind You Have Always Bought

## UNDERDRAINING HILLSIDES.

**M**ANY farmers whose land is rolling or hilly do not appreciate the benefit that underdraining it would give them. The soil is thin and they complain that the water runs off too rapidly. That is indeed just the trouble. There is only a thin stratum on the surface that is permeable by waters, and when the floods come they carry every Winter more or less of this surface soil into the valleys below. Wherever the subsoil of hills is clay an underdrain sunk three feet deep will cause the water that comes to it to sink into the soil and be carried off by the drain instead of on the surface.

On very steep hillsides it is not best to dig ditches straight up and down the hill. A diagonal course, leading the water across the hill, with a gradual descent to the lower part, will be much better. Of course several drains will be needed, running parallel, in a hill of much size, and all may run into an open ditch on the lower side of the hill. We dislike to run side-hill drains into a large underground conduit. More or less dirt will be loosened and brought down in the drains. The covered conduit will often need to be cleaned. So will the open ditch, but it will be much less trouble than the underdrain. Wherever there is a sudden stoppage of rapid descent, there will be a large deposit of silt, and at such place a deep, wide hole, two or three feet below the tile, should be made to be filled with water. In this still water all the soil brought from the heights above will be deposited, and from this on the further side a drain can be run that will take only the pure water from the surface of the silt.

By thus draining hillsides, all the surface wash can be prevented. What comes down through the tiles will be very little except for the first few years, while the soil is settling. After an underdrain is thus established in its position, it undergoes very few changes. The effect of frost on moist ground is to expand and deepen it, so that it will absorb more water. In this way the hill-side may be given as deep soil and with as much fertility as the best lowland, with the advantage over the latter that it is not likely to be overflooded with water which remains stagnant.

On many upland hillsides, springs will be struck in progress of underdraining, or they may be springs that appear even now on the surface. These springs ought always to be tapped. Wherever there is a wet place in the hillside a little digging will probably find the spring that originates it. Sole or round tile should always be used in hillside draining. Where horsehoe tile are used the edge of the tile are liable to be undermined by washing away the soil between them, and in this way the drain is soon spoiled. With sole or round tile there is no such friction on the soil beneath it.

Many hillsides are too rocky for profitable draining, and especially those that are very springy. But on almost all of them it is possible to make short underdrains from wet places to the lower grounds, where in rocky soil it can often find fissures in the rocks through which it may pass to the vales below. The greater part of the rainfall on mountains thus finds its way to the seaboard. If the mountain streams brought in surface floods all the rain that falls, it would make greater floods than any that are now known. This is shown by the heavy floods that come when the ground is covered with ice, so that the natural escape through absorption by the surface soil is stopped.—Am. Cultivator.

### Buzzard's Spread Hog Cholera.

The common turkey buzzard is a harmless fowl, but does great mischief in the way of spreading hog cholera. This was brought to my mind a few days since with such force that I no longer have any doubt about it. A farmer, on whose farm there had been no hog cholera for many years, was attacked by the disease in his herd and couldn't understand how he got it until it was suggested to him on this wise. He had killed an old dog and thrown it in a ditch in the pasture, where the hogs were using; buzzards soon congregated there to clean up the carrion. They had doubtless just left a hog carcass that was loaded with cholera germs. Thus they were sprinkled there and the herd came in contact with them. Of the success of this way of spreading hog cholera there is no doubt.

### Our Best Customers.

Of the \$1,210,291,913 worth of American products exported last year nearly \$1,000,000,000 went to Europe, nearly \$80,000,000 went to the Dominion of Canada—a per capita basis for our nearest neighbors of \$15.50 for every man, woman and child. Our entire sales in South and Central America were only \$1 per capita. We exported to the Philippines \$127,787 worth of goods.

## KEEP GOOD BULLS.

**T**HE farmers of Breckenridge county should discontinue keeping grade bulls on their farms. Keeping grade bulls is simply gambling. You cannot depend upon their sires inheriting the good traits of the thoroughbred strain of blood that is in the grade stock. More likely they will turn out to be as bad as the worst mongrels. Get a good bull. Remember that a bull is half the herd. If individual farmers cannot afford to get good bulls, follow the example of German and Danish farmers and form clubs for the purpose of buying good bulls to be used for service on the best cows. Four farmers whose herds aggregate thirty or forty cows have no use for more than one bull. Why keep a scrub for eight or ten cows? Co-operate.

### Honey to Sell at Home.

Many farmers who keep but a small number of colonies of bees, sell all their honey at home at profitable prices, says an exchange. A farmer's neighbors in the village may not always know what he has to sell, and in such cases the farmer has to "work up" his trade when he starts in to supply some new product. The best way to advertise honey is to give samples to those whose patronage the producer may desire. The way to advertise is to secure small sections, those that will hold a half pound, or even less, if one does not feel that he can afford to give pound or half-pound samples away. Get enough such sections to answer the need of samples and place them on the hives at the opening of the honey-gathering season. When they are filled, label them, and distribute them. Following such samples within a week, the farmer will find purchasers, providing the samples were of fine quality. This sample system of advertising is largely carried on by merchants in the villages, towns and cities, and it is considered a highly successful system. When once a customer has taken honey from the farmer he is likely to become a regular customer. The farmers in some sections take their honey to grocery stores in the village and cities and leave it on sale, periodically collecting from the grocery-men for all that is sold, and allowing the store men a commission on the sales. In many sections of New York and Pennsylvania both these methods are pronounced economical and successful.

### Chicken Duties.

The importance of a constant supply of clean water also, for chickens (as well as fowls) can hardly be over estimated. It would seem almost unnecessary to allude to this matter, but we have so often utterly astonished at the amazing indifference shown in this direction, that we call attention to it. When giving the chickens their breakfast, their water dish is washed and filled; all right so far, but perhaps in an hour it has become filled with dirt; or possibly, as is sometimes the case with some of us, their dish is upset, which is no worse, however, than if filled with dirty water, unfit for use. If "eternal vigilance is the price of liberty," it is equally so of successful chicken raising. Look after your chickens a dozen or twenty times a day. Go your rounds like a watchman, if necessary, every hour, if not to do anything for them, to see if anything need to be done. The mother does not always lay aside her sewing or her book and go into the nursery simply to pick her babe of the floor and put it in bed again, from whence it has tumbled out, but she goes there to see if it is sleeping peacefully and is all right. Go out and do likewise, oh, chicken man or woman. Go among your charge frequently to see if they are all right. It is a good deal of trouble, we admit, but we do not know of any successful business that is not attended with more or less trouble. In fact, this little world is full of trouble, and you must bear your part of it.—Ex.

### Value of Tillage.

The experiments of the Cornell Station go to show very clearly that tillage is fully as important a factor in growing successful crops as even soil fertility. For several years the Station has been making careful experiments in tillage and soil fertility. Potatoes were grown on a soil containing less fertility than the average soil, yet by means of careful tillage, and without the use of any commercial fertilizer or manure of any kind, crops have been grown which are far above the average of the State. The crop raised this year is the fifth one removed from the soil since fertilizers of any kind were applied; yet it is a very satisfactory one. The time for listing in a crop and cultivating it once has gone by.

## LAMBS FOR MUTTON.

**P**ROBABLY the fattest lambs sent to market are those obtained from a cross of Merino with Southdown, says Indiana Farmer. They are about as plump and heavy for their size as any bred, although they are not the largest. They are generally desired by good butchers, and very often they will command fancy prices. Their Southdown lineage will be apparent in their black faces and legs, and most butchers believe yet, and with good reason, that the "Southdown is the finest sheep in the world."

But the Merino contributes many noteworthy qualities. The lambs get their fatness and tenderness from the Merino, and this greatly helps the lambs in the markets. Altogether the cross produces about as satisfactory results for the general breeder of lambs for mutton as any.

The lambs when two weeks old should be taught to eat a little dry food, and this can best be given to them with the hand. Sometimes a tempting dish can be made for the lambs—a mixture of clean oats, corn and linseed meal in equal parts, ground up finely, and then salted and sweetened with a little sugar. The taste of the latter tempts the lambs. The ewes should also be fed freely and with good nourishing food to keep up the flow of milk, for it is advisable for the lambs to have plenty of the mother's milk.

### A Sinful Waste.

The annual waste of manure on farms amounts in dollars to thousands. Only a few farmers have reached the point where the value of manure is appreciated. Others are falling in line as the years come and go. When the country is so thickly settled that every acre will have to be worked for all there is in it, then manure will be used as it should. A common practice is to throw it into the river or haul it to a ditch and dump it therein, and the first rain washes it away and gives the value to a farmer hundreds of miles away.

### About Legumes.

Clovers, cow peas, in fact all legumes, serve admirably to balance corn fodder as a dairy feed. The clover, etc., possesses the nitrogenous compounds which the stover lacks. The manure resulting from a feed composed in part of nitrogenous plants is much more valuable in keeping up the fertility of the soil. Then too, the nitrogenous plants do not drain the soil to the extent that plants not legumes do, as the former draw their entire supply of nitrogen from the air.

### The Breeding Season.

Even a small farm, 80 or 100 acres, ought to market a big bunch of fat hogs twice a year. April pigs will bring good prices in December or the first of the year. The breeding should be so conducted as to bring pigs in February and May. Of course in February the weather is pretty cold and damp, but if the sows have comfortable quarters, such as may be easily and cheaply constructed, they are not likely to lose any of the litter. It takes attention then, though.

### A Preventative.

One of the best preventatives of all kinds of diseases to which dumb animals are prone, is pure water. The stagnant pond is not pure water by any means. That green slime is laden with billions of disease germs of every kind. Pure water comes only from pure sources—springs and deep wells. Cisterns, if kept well cleaned, are not so bad, but are not so good as springs.

### Top Dressing.

Top dressing of soil is fall or winter, for late spring plowing, is the cheapest and most satisfactory way of manuring for corn on most farms. Where the supply of manure is very large, it may be good practice to plow under an application freshly made to the ground, but it is poor practice for those whose supply of manure is small.

## FARM AND STOCK.

Wheat has been badly injured by severe weather.

Bourbon county sold \$650,000 worth of export cattle last year.

C. A. Montgomery, of Ekron, was in Louisville Thursday selling stock.

J. A. Carey, of Glendean, was in Louisville Thursday with horses and mules.

W. A. Baskett, of Gaston, marketed 102 hogs at Louisville, Thursday and got \$3.75.

Feed little corn to brood sows, and only at night to furnish warmth to the body.

Richard Hardaway, of Irvington, was in Louisville, Thursday, with a load of hogs and cattle.

Farrish & McDonald, of Cliftonville, sold to Thomas Henry Clay two hundred barrels of corn at \$1.90 delivered.

J. M. Owen and John D. Reese have bought about 2,000 lambs at five cents per pound.—Winchester Democrat.

W. H. Robb bought of R. H. Ware the past week 28 extra feeders, weight about 1,150 lbs., at \$4.40.—Winchester Democrat.

Robinson Bros., of Glendean, shipped 20 head of cattle to Louisville, Thursday and received \$1 per hundred on the bunch.

At Louisville, last week, \$17.25 was paid per hundred for one bushel of tobacco and crop averages of \$10 to \$11 were made on large lots.

It is estimated by the officials of the Department of Agriculture that the hay crop of the United States produced in 1898 reached a value of about \$400,000,000.

J. W. Riley, president of the Colorado Cattle Co., has just closed a deal whereby he gets 20,000 cattle for \$350,000. Most of them come from Texas and New Mexico.

Corn is up to \$2 a barrel in the local market. Several small lots have been sold at that price within the past week. Some predict that it will go higher still.—Versailles Sun.

The Lancaster Record tells of a Garrard county woman who purchased a sow for \$2.50 and from her sold six shoats for \$25. She still has the sow and a new litter of pigs worth \$25.

A California man has patented an automatic stock-feeding apparatus, in which a clock releases a weight, lifting the cover of the feed box and dropping hay down from a rack overhead.

J. A. Dudderar's famous Durham cow has just dropped twin calves again, says the Danville Advocate, making three pairs and a single one in six years. Both genders were represented in the last arrival.

Chicago will supply Europe with 10,000 coacs and bus horses. They are to come from different parts of Illinois and Iowa, and will be shipped at the rate of 200 a week. The first consignment left last week for London and Liverpool.

Messrs. George and Carroll Hamilton, of Bath county, have sold their 1898 crop of tobacco, consisting of about 200 acres, and aggregating considerably over 200,000 pounds at 7 cents per pound. Mr. Knowles, of Mt. Sterling, was the purchaser.

No-To-Bac for Fifty Cents. Guaranteed tobacco habit cure, makes weak men strong, blood pure. 50c. Bl. All druggists.

IT'S YOUR LOSS IF YOU DON'T ACCEPT

# THIS MAGNIFICENT OFFER!

The Child's Bible and the Breckenridge News for One Year

FOR \$2.00.



## THE CHILD'S BIBLE

Contains the narrative, descriptive, and other portions of the Holy Scriptures in the words of the authorized version, to which are added more than a hundred pages, comprising

A CHILD'S HISTORY OF THE BIBLE, And an Account of the Children of the Bible.

Richly Illustrated with nearly 300 fine Engravings and Maps, and handsomely bound in cloth and morocco, with exquisitely attractive and charming new cover designs. Size, 8 1/2 x 10 inches, Royal Quarto, with nearly 900 pages.

# GENUINE OXFORD TEACHER'S BIBLE!



Authorized American Edition, the Model Bible of the Nineteenth Century.

AND THE **Breckenridge News** FOR ONE YEAR FOR \$2.50.

This Bible is far in advance of all competitors. It never has been and is not now equalled anywhere. It is printed upon a paper of great opacity, toughness and softness, and agreeable tone. The Bible possesses a Concordance, Maps of the Holy Land, and helps in the way of plates showing the money, language, animals, and history of the Bible. This Bible is in Morocco binding, round corners, gold edged and patent indexed on the margin.

The beginning of the flood. GENESIS, VIII. The waters assuage. **CHAPTER VIII.** **AND GOD REMEMBERED NOAH, AND EVERY LIVING THING, AND ALL THE CATTLE THAT WAS WITH HIM IN THE ARK.**

This illustration shows the size of type and the style of pages. This is positively the most valuable edition of the Bible that has ever been printed.

The Breckenridge News offers the Teacher's Oxford Bibles as a Premium to Subscribers.

## THESE BIBLES

Sell at \$2.50 per volume everywhere in the United States, but the publishers of this paper offer it and a year's subscription to THE BRECKENRIDGE NEWS for \$2.50. GIFT OF \$1.00 MADE TO EACH NEW SUBSCRIBER. This magnificent offer should not be ignored, Send in your subscription to the paper and an order for the Bible right now. IT IS THE OPPORTUNITY OF YOUR LIFE.

# THE BRECKENRIDGE NEWS, - - - CLOVERPORT, KY.