

DAIRY AND POULTRY.

INTERESTING CHAPTERS FOR OUR RURAL READERS.

How Successful Farmers Operate This Department of the Farm — A Few Hints as to the Care of Live Stock and Poultry.

The Devons.

The peninsula which forms the southwestern portion of England is the home of a thrifty and attractive race of deep-red cattle, which take their name from the elevated region in the north of Devonshire, where they have been brought to the greatest evenness and fixity of type. If solid color throughout and resistance to variation in all particulars be accepted as evidence of antiquity in a breed, the Devon must be regarded as among the oldest and purest. It certainly is one of the best defined of British breeds of cattle, although little is known of its origin. It was undoubtedly very gradually developed, but its greatest improvement since the record began has been at the hands of the brothers Quattley, Messrs. John T. and James Davy, and Mr. Coke of Holkham, afterwards Earl of Leicester.

It is believed that Devons were among the very first cattle brought across the Atlantic, reaching New England on the ship *Charity* in the year 1623. Importations of some consequence were made in 1800, and to New York soon afterwards, but the first herd to be brought to this country and maintained pure, so that breeders can still trace to it, was a present of a bull and six heifers from Holkham, sent directly to Mr. Robert Patterson of Maryland and arriving at Baltimore June 10, 1817. This Patterson herd has been kept up during the greater part of the century. Other importations occurred in 1818, 1820, 1835, 1855, and frequently in later years.

The characteristics of the Devon are compactness and general beauty, hardiness, activity, intelligence, docility, aptitude to fatten and quality of milk. The prevailing red varies from a dark, rich color to pale chestnut, but no black or white is admissible excepting a little white patch on and in front of the udder, which sometimes extends forward on the belly, and white hair in the switch of the tail. The skin is yellow and unctuous, its richness being shown in an orange ring around the eyes and more or less of the same encircling the muzzle. The hair is soft, fine, and often curls closely on the necks, shoulders, and faces. The head is adorned, in the case of the female, with particularly elegant, creamy-white, sharp-pointed, black-tipped horns of medium length, having a good elevation at the junction with the head and curving upward. In the bull the horns are shorter in proportion to thickness, straighter, and less raised.

Dairy Notes.

Experiments have been made to demonstrate the possibility of cooling refrigerator cars by means of liquid air, and the experiments proved successful. Dairymen and creamery men are interested in the matter, as it affects the transportation of all kinds of dairy products. But there is little reason for believing that this generation will see liquid air used for such a purpose, for the reason that no way has been found of producing it cheaply.

Professor Conn is well known as a scientist that has devoted a good deal of time to the isolation of bacilli for milk ripening. Just how valuable this work is has yet to be demonstrated, and experiments with the cultures has not been at all one way. At the time of the Columbian Exposition a good deal of milk came to Chicago from distant parts of the world. Even far-off Uruguay made a consignment of the lactical fluid. Prof. Conn investigated some of this milk and found it excellent. The cream from it ripened with a flavor superior to most of the butter made in this country. From this cream he isolated the bacillus that gave the flavor and made cultures from it. Once started the production of bacilli went on indefinitely, and a company was formed to sell it under the title of "B. 41," which means "Bacillus No. 41." In relation to its value of the ordinary methods of ripening butter we quote from "Milk and Its Products": "A series of investigations by Profs. Farrington and Russell in which a large number of samples of butter were made from cream ripened by the use of B. 41, and in the ordinary way, or normally, and submitted to the judgment of several experts who were ignorant of the process of manufacture, led to the conclusion that the Conn culture, B. 41, did not improve the flavor of the separator butter ripened for one day at a high temperature, or of that ripened for a longer time at a lower temperature; on the contrary, the score of the B. 41 butter, by the various judges, was, in the majority of cases, materially lower than that of normal butter."

With separator butter in cold storage there was but little difference in flavor between these two butters, although the normal butter when fresh scored higher." We have to add that clean cream from clean milk seldom needs assistance to develop a good butter flavor.

Poultry Briefs.

How much age affects the laying qualities of some fowls is yet an unsolved problem. An experiment was carried on at the West Virginia Experiment Station for the purpose of gathering some data relative thereto. About 300 pullets were pitted against 300 old hens, and the contest was kept up for 210 days. During that time the

pullets laid 6,209 eggs, and the old fowls 6,349, or a difference in favor of the old hens of 140 eggs. The breeds were white and brown Leghorns, and the old hens were three and four years of age. This seems to demonstrate that the notion of killing off old hens over two years of age is not a good one. But the lesson is not perhaps of general application for the reason that Leghorns are said to continue dropping eggs in large numbers long after most breeds have ceased to lay. One poultryman says he keeps his Brown Leghorns as long as they will lay, and that he kept one hen till she was nine years of age. A good many experiments will have to be made before we can get much definite light on the subject.

The advisability of not sending chickens to market in a lean condition is borne out by about all the experiments undertaken along the line of fattening fowls for market. One year the Maine Experiment Station secured a considerable number of fowls to be used in a test of this kind. The chickens were 130 days old at the beginning of the test, and the feeding was continued for thirty-five days. The 40 weighed 147.9 pounds at the beginning of the test and 237.1 at its close, and gained a total of 89.2 pounds during the period, an average gain of 2.23 pounds per chick. The quantity of dry meal required to produce a pound of gain was 5.52 pounds. When sold, the birds brought 14 cents net each more than they would have brought if sold at the former weights. Of course this advance was made in a state where retail prices for poultry are high, but the cost of feed is correspondingly high. The quality of the well-covered, soft-fleshed chickens, if they are not too fat, is so much superior to that of the same birds not specially prepared that they will be sought for at a higher price.

Chicken Cholera and Eemp.

This is an exceedingly fatal contagious disease, which is widely distributed over this country, and causes enormous annual losses, especially in the central and southern sections.

The first symptoms of the disease are, in the majority of cases, a yellow coloration of that part of the excrement which is usually white, quickly followed by violent diarrhea and rise of temperature. Other common accompanying symptoms are drooping of the wings, stupor, lessened appetite and excessive thirst.

Since the disease is due to a specific germ, it can only be introduced into a flock by direct importation of this germ, generally by fowls from infected premises. As soon as the symptoms of the disease are observed the fowls should be separated as much as possible and given restricted quarters, where disinfectants can be freely used. As soon as the peculiar diarrhea is noticed with any of the fowls the birds of that lot should be changed to fresh ground and the sick ones killed. The infected excrement should be carefully scraped up and burned, and the inclosure thoroughly disinfected with one-half per cent solution of carbolic acid, which may be applied with an ordinary watering pot. Burn dead birds.

The germs of the disease are taken into the system only by the mouth, and for this reason the watering troughs and feeding places must be kept thoroughly free from them by frequent disinfection with one of the solutions mentioned.

"Treatment of sick birds is not to be recommended under any circumstances. The malady runs its course, as a rule, in one, two or three days, and it can only be checked with great difficulty."

Roup is one of the most dreaded of diseases. It is sometimes spoken of as the winter disease. The symptoms are hoarse breathing, swelled eyes, discharge at the nostrils and sometimes a fetid breath. Treatment is not generally satisfactory. The affected birds should be removed, the house cleansed and disinfected. Damp, foul air and cold drafts in the poultry house should be carefully avoided whenever fowls are subject to roup. A decrease in the proportion of corn and an increase in the proportion of meat food in the daily ration is held by some to be highly beneficial in warding off this disease.

In general the treatment of the common diseases of fowls is not so satisfactory as preventive measures. Nowhere more than in the poultry business does that old adage apply, "An ounce of prevention is worth a pound of cure."—Agricultural Department Bulletin.

Shetland Sheep Wool.

The wool of the pure native Shetland sheep is generally compared to merino on account of its fine texture. Like the Shetland pony, the pure Shetland sheep is a small and very active creature, often to be seen moving with the swiftness and agility of a goat or chamois among the cliffs and crags of the moor. For the first few months the lambs live on the hill pastures with their mothers, but toward the close of summer they are taken in from the hill and tethered, usually in pairs on the grass inside the dikes that separate the hill pasture from the crofts. This is done to give them a better chance of standing the winter, but when bad weather really sets in they are shut up in saug and comfortable little folds every night, and regularly fed. In spring they are again allowed to run free on the hill pastures.

The wool of the native sheep is no generally clipped or shorn. On the farms where cheviot and black-face sheep are kept shearing is, of course the practice, but the Shetlanders leave the sheep's fleece intact till the wool is ripe, so to speak, and just about to come off itself; then it is roced or pulled off carefully, so as not to hurt the creatures, and any part of it that does not come off readily is left till later.—Chamber's Journal.

AN HEREDITARY MOLE.

And the Influence it Exerted Over One Family's Fortune.

They were in the Turkish bathhouse and a loosely-draped sheet exposed a mole on the left shoulder of the blonde one. That started the conversation.

"Have it removed!" she echoed in response to the suggestion of her dark friend. "Well, not just now. It would be somewhat of a trial, I'll admit, if it was a little higher up, but my evening gowns are not cut down to it yet. "Even if fashion decreed that they should be, I would hesitate about parting with it. Have you one? No? Well, perhaps that has nothing to do with the case after all. I don't know that ordinary moles have any effect on the fortunes of their possessors, but there is something about this one of mine that makes it very dear to me. Oh, there's no secret about it and I don't mind telling you.

"You know I am quite superstitious about many things. Well, this mole is not the first to appear in our family. In fact, my great-grandfather, my grandfather and my father each had one, and as there were no sons of my parents the family mole seems to have descended to me. None of the other girls has one.

"What happened to my great-grandfather's mole does no appear in the family records and he probably kept it to the end of his days. Not so with my grandfather. He yielded to personal vanity and got rid of it in the old-fashioned way by tying a silk thread around it. Luck promptly turned against him and he died poor. "My father started in life with little or nothing, but was successful in a central New York business, and while still a young man amassed a comfortable fortune. About this time some new eceetrical treatment for the cure of skin blemishes was widely advertised and my father fell a victim to it and had his mole taken off. Shortly afterward he decided to give up his business in New York to enter what looked like a more promising field in California.

"We all moved out there and the country and climate were admirable, but business was not and complete failure followed. Of course, you may think that the removal of the mole had nothing to do with this fact, but I am firmly convinced that it had all to do with it.

"Now, I have been fairly prosperous in my limited career, and I intend to avoid the errors of my ancestors and cling to the mole."

And the dark one nodded her head in silent approval.

HAS NO USE FOR A LIAR.

How Minister Wu Squelched an Untruthful Correspondent.

One of the most commendable characteristics of the Chinese minister at Washington is his frankness. He does not hesitate to express his opinion upon all matters that are brought to his attention. One day he was visited by a Washington newspaper correspondent, who is perhaps not alone in his profession in regarding himself as a great man. Before he had learned anything whatever from Mr. Wu, Mr. Wu was plying him with his usual questions. When the query as to the amount of his weekly stipend was put the correspondent heaved up his chest, stroked his mustache with pride and prepared to astonish the simple correspondent. "One hundred and fifty dollars a week!" he exclaimed. "It is too much," came quick as a shot from the minister's lips; "it is altogether too much—you are not worth more than \$25 a week."

Later on, by dint of cross-examination of other newspaper men, Mr. Wu learned that his \$150-a-week visitor had prevaricated to the extent of about \$90 per week. The next time this gentleman called at the Chinese legation and sent his card to the minister he was accorded an audience, but the first thing the minister said to him was "You lied to me about your salary. If you will lie about such a thing a third you will lie about anything. I do not trust you. I have nothing to tell you. I want to revise my former estimate of your value—instead of being worth \$2 a week you are not worth anything, sir. Good day."

Mrs. Theodore Roosevelt.

As the wife of vice-president of the United States Mrs. Roosevelt will be obliged to assume a prominent position in the world, and it must be said for her that she has yielded to the inevitable with grace and dignity. The state of Mrs. McKinley's health precludes the possibility of her taking active part in society, which relegates the responsibilities of "the first lady in the land" to Mrs. Roosevelt. There is much curiosity in Washington society concerning the new leader. They will not be much seen of her until next year, however. The vice-president's family will not take up a permanent residence in Washington until next fall.

Mrs. Roosevelt was a Miss Edith Kermit Carow. She is now about 38 years old, and, while not a beautiful woman, possesses an unusual attractiveness of face and figure. She has an unmistakable appearance of racial distinction, and has also the simple, gracious manners of a truly aristocratic woman. She dresses extremely well.

Value of Municipal Waterworks.

Greater New York has \$125,000,000 invested in water works, Chicago \$31,000,000; Boston, \$15,000,000; Baltimore, \$18,000,000; Cincinnati, \$10,000,000; St. Louis, \$20,000,000; Philadelphia, \$25,000,000; Pittsburg, \$8,000,000; New York, \$10,000,000; Milwaukee, \$5,000,000; San Francisco, \$25,000,000; Cleveland, \$10,000,000; New Orleans, \$5,000,000, and Providence \$6,000,000.

PERUNA CURES SPRING CATARRH

PERUNA AN IDEAL SPRING TONIC

Easter Greeting

To the afflicted.

Illustration: A woman in a long dress holding a banner that reads 'Easter Greeting'. In the background, a man is shown in a state of distress, possibly representing the afflicted mentioned in the text.

If every one in the world were healthy and happy what a glad day Easter would be. But the sun rises every Easter morning on a multitude of sick and afflicted. The Easter lilies gladden the hearts of the sick and well alike.

But to the sick something more than the Easter lily is necessary to bring that hope and cheer which every one expects on Easter day. The well need no physician, but the sick need a remedy.

Nearly one-half the people in the United States are suffering from some form or phase of catarrhal ailment. These ailments take different forms at different seasons of the year. In the springtime catarrh assumes a systemic form, producing nervousness, lassitude and general languor.

Systemic catarrh deranges the digestion and through deranged digestion it impoverishes or contaminates the blood. Thus we have blood diseases and nervous derangements through systemic catarrh.

Peruna is a specific for these cases. No other remedy yet devised by the medical profession is able to successfully meet so many phases of spring ailments as Peruna.

Men and women everywhere are praising Peruna as follows:

- A First Class Tonic.**
Wm. A. Collier, Assistant Paymaster U. S. N., writes: "I have taken Peruna and recommend it to those needing a first-class tonic."
- A Great Tonic.**
Hon. M. C. Butler, Ex-U. S. Senator and Ex-Governor of South Carolina, writes from Edgefield, S. C.: "I have been using Peruna for a short period and I feel very much relieved. It is indeed a wonderful medicine and besides a great tonic."
- Splendid for the Nerves.**
Robert B. Mantell, the famous actor, writes from New York City: "Peruna is splendid and most invigorating—refreshing to the nerves and brain."
- For General Debility.**
Hon. Jno. V. Wright, of the Law Department, General Land Office of Tennessee, writes: "I wish everyone who is suffering with general debility or prostration could know of Peruna."
- A Spring Tonic.**
Mrs. D. W. Timberlake, Lynchburg, Va., says: "There is no better spring tonic than Peruna, and I have used about all of them."
- A Good Tonic.**
Captain Percy W. Moss, Second Arkansas Volunteers, writes from Paragould, Ark.: "I find Peruna a very good spring tonic, and will readily recommend it at any time."
- Builds Up the Entire System.**
Miss Jennie Johnson, 3118 Lake Park avenue, Chicago, Ill., is Vice President of Chicago Teachers' Federation. She writes: "Peruna restores the functions of nature, induces sleep and builds up the entire system."
- Makes Steady Nerves.**
D. L. Wallace, Charter Member International Barbers' Union, 15 Western avenue, Minneapolis, Minnesota, writes: "I now feel splendid. My head is clear, my nerves are steady, I enjoy my food and rest well."
- The Best of Tonics.**
Hon. W. C. Chambers, Chief Justice of Samoa, says: "I have tried one lot of Peruna and can truthfully say it is one of the best tonics I ever used."
- A Grand Tonic.**
Mrs. Gridley, mother of Captain Gridley, of the "Olympia," writes: "I used Peruna and can truthfully say it is a grand tonic."
- For Overwork.**
Mr. Toff Johnson, a prominent actor of Washington, D. C., writes from Fourteenth and "I" streets: "In the effort to improve a condition impaired by overwork, I have found nothing that has done as much good as Peruna."
- For a Warm-out System.**
Mrs. Catherine Toft, President of Val-Kyrien Association, 5623 Cottage Grove avenue, Chicago, Ill., writes: "I often advise Peruna in cases of a worn-out system and a broken down constitution."

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