

The Farmers' Column.

From the Maryland Farmer.

The Depredations of Dogs upon Sheep.

Many of the Western States annoyed and injured by the ravages of the worthless dogs allowed to live and increase within their borders, have passed stringent laws in order to restrain this growing evil. The laws themselves, though it is impossible to make them perfect enough to be wholly effectual, yet would be partially so if some means were provided for their more vigorous enforcement. As they stand, they are, as far as any general and permanent good is concerned, a dead letter upon the statute book in the very portions of the States most needing their protection.

A bill recently introduced in the Legislature of Illinois, gives the salient points of the regulations usually adopted. It enacts that:

"Every owner of a dog shall, on or before the 1st of September, procure from the Town Clerk, and cause to be worn, a collar for each dog he shall own; the clerk to keep a record and description of all dogs, for which collars are obtained, with the names of their owners. For each dog registered, he is to be paid a fee of one dollar. Any dog not wearing a collar and registered is to be considered as abandoned, and it shall be lawful for any person to slay such animal as though he were wild. The assessors shall procure lists of all registered dogs, and shall also make return of all abandoned dogs, with the names of the persons who harbor them. A tax of one dollar shall be paid for each registered male, and a tax of two dollars for each registered female dog. Owners of dogs are made liable for all injuries the latter may inflict. Any person may kill a dog which makes a sudden assault upon him outside of the enclosure of its owner or keeper, and any person may kill a dog which makes a sudden assault upon him outside of the enclosure of its owner or keeper, and any person may kill a dog found out of the immediate control of its keeper, worrying, wounding or killing any domestic animal."

We are not at present informed whether the above bill is now a law or not, but we hope the members of the Illinois Legislature were sensible enough to pass either this or some proper statute of the kind.

There was at one time a statute similar to the above in Iowa Probably other Western and Northern States have passed laws of the same nature for the same purpose. In Maryland we have no general laws of the kind, except two sections of the code, which as they are short and we purpose to make some comment on them, we give:

SEC. 1. "If any dog shall be detected in killing or injuring sheep, and proof thereof shall be made by the oath of the owner of said sheep, or any other person being a competent witness before a Justice of the Peace, the owner of said dog upon complaint to him made and information of such proof, shall proceed forthwith to kill said dog, and on his refusal or neglect to do so, the owner of said sheep may kill said dog afterwards found running at large, or may apply to a constable who, upon the production of the aforesaid affidavit, shall proceed to the house of the owner of said dog, and kill said dog there or wherever else found."

SEC. 2. "If such dog shall immediately upon such complaint and information be killed by his owner, the owner of the sheep shall not have cause of action against the owner of said dog, but upon his refusal to kill said dog, the owner of the sheep may recover double the value of the sheep killed, with costs, in the manner prescribed for the recovery of debts."

There are also local statutes in the code applicable to Harford and Cecil counties, and to some of the county towns other than the sections cited: but the largest and wealthiest portion of our State has to rely entirely, whatever the value of the sheep may be, upon the statute quoted for protection against depredations upon their sheep-fold by dogs allowed to roam through the neighborhood unrestrained. This should be no longer permitted. If we are to have any law at all upon the subject, it should at least be one that is capable of being put into practice with some hope of effect. The present enactment is the merest farce; we doubt if action was ever taken under its provisions. We feel certain that no debt for injury to sheep has ever been satisfied. If there is any law in our code, with the possible exception, for which there is no authority, of the forbidding a man to marry his grandmother, less likely to be of use, we have the 87th article of Maryland Code of General Laws with reference to 'sheep,' which would much more clearly set forth its practical bearing if it were headed "a law for the protection of dogs, and for more effectually spreading ill-will between neighbor and neighbor if they are interfered with!"

THE ABSORBENT POWERS OF A MELLOW SOIL.—Experiments have shown that a mellow, loamy soil is capable of absorbing in twelve hours, when exposed to a moist atmosphere, an amount of water equal to two per cent. of its weight. If any argument were needed to keep the soil mellow, here is a most powerful one to induce us. For this property possessed by a mellow soil is one that in a dry season is able to give it the power of maturing a crop, when a hardened surface would be unable to do so. A surface that is impenetrable to the atmosphere, of course could not absorb any of the moisture with which the atmosphere is charged. But when rendered free from lumps by repeated plowings and harrowings, each change of temperature causes a circulation of air throughout the mass of soil, which is free then to absorb all the moisture coming in contact with it until it is saturated. So, then, the more the soil is mellowed by cultivation, the less it is injuriously affected by drouth, and the better is it enabled to mature a fair crop in spite of the absence of rain.

"PERSONAL."

A typo stood with stick in hand
And copy on his case,
But ne'er a type his fingers sought,
For on his classic face
A look of deepest import dwelt,
As he that copy read—
'Twas in a little graceful fist,
And this is what he said:

"A nice young femail gurl with eyes
Of deepest likwid blew,
And amply floatin awburn locks
Wich natu-rally grew,
Would acquaintance sweet to maik
With views to matri-mony—
Address, post-pade, box forty-six,
To Mary Jane Mahoney!"

He dropped the stick, procured a sub,
And then straightway indicted
An answer to that "personal."
Next morn he was delighted
A letter to receive not paid—
In terms of warmest greeting
Appointing for that very night
The place of their first meeting.

He changed his linen, washed his face,
Put on some borrowed clothes,
And with serene and joyous mein,
And blushing Roman nose,
And sought the gushing Mary Jane—
That maid with auburn hair—
At their appointed rendezvous,
And found her waiting there.

At once she cried, "O typo sweet,
My own true love art thou
Forever, till death do us part—
I'd like ten dollars now!"
But scarcely had she grasped the stamps
When to the swain's dismay,
One Smith who keeps a keno shop,
Stepped up and thus did say:

"My *wife* and I, young printer man,
Must pray you to excuse
Our further company to-night,
Accept our kind adieux."
That typo sadly turned away,
No smiles now lit his face;
He murmured "sold," then heaved a sigh
And went back to his case.

Importing Elephants.

A SHIP LOAD BROUGHT FROM CEYLON TO NEW YORK.

The New York papers gives an account of the arrival in that city of ten elephants from Ceylon. They were brought to the foot of Thirtieth street, North River, on board the bark Nehemiah Gibson, Captain Smalley, which arrived after a four months' voyage from Ceylon.

The reporters, of course, visited the vessel, and in talking with Captain Smalley about the elephants, he furnished the following account of the trade in those beasts in the East Indies:

If you want to buy elephants cheap in Ceylon, said the Captain, you must go to your hotel, throw yourself back in a chair, stick your thumbs in your vest, and say I want to buy some elephants The native dealers will seek you out eagerly and tell you yarns about the fine beasts, they have on hand for your consideration. Stroke your chin musingly and tell them to fetch along the elephants for inspection, and they will do it. If you want one you will be shown a hundred. The elephants aboard my vessel, however, were bargained for at the jungle. They are all fine beasts and no mistake. They were all trapped in the jungles of the Mannah District, in Ceylon, and all of them, with one exception, a chap of thirty years of age, were freshly caught and wild. The one referred to had been about two years in the custody of the native dealers.

We received the elephants at Colombo (Ceylon,) and the beasts were got on board by means of canvass slings and ropes and pulleys hung from the rigging and main-sail boom. Eleven of them in all were safely stowed sway between decks. Forty-five natives were employed in the work of hoisting and lowering them aboard ship. This number was more than was needed, but labor is cheap in Ceylon, and I thought I might as well have enough of them while I was about it.

I made good preparation for them; I had stalls built of teak wood, strong enough on all sides to resist a pressure of two thousand pounds, and so constructed as to keep each animal in his place and securely separated from others in the roughest weather. We sailed on the 20th of March, an experienced the best kind of weather until we reached the Cape of Good Hope, when we had some little trouble and anxiety about the elephants. Most of them got sea-sick, which was manifested in their refusing either to eat or drink for several days, but they soon got over their qualmishness and were able to eat as heartily as when on dry land. At the Cape of Good Hope we began to have rough weather. We had three terrific gales while rounding the Cape, and the rough weather continued from the 14th to the 22d of May. We all felt a great deal of anxiety about the elephants, who sometimes set up a fearful roaring, but luckily the bark weathered the gales successfully, and the elephants, thanks to the excellent precautions taken to fasten them securely in their stalls, came through it uninjured. As I showed you when below, there were the two iron ring-bolts driven and riveted into the sides of the vessel, and the strong bar of teak wood well lashed to the front of the stalls.

Well, sir, in rough weather we used to tie their hind legs to the ring-bolts, and the beasts would themselves wrap their trunks around the wooden bar before them and hold fast, and in this position the waves might toss the vessel as much as they pleased but they couldn't throw the elephants off their feet. Sometimes, to be sure, an extraordinary lurch to one side or the other of the craft would throw the elephants back up against the deck overhead, but this didn't happen often enough to give them much annoyance. We put in at St. Helena to take in a fresh supply of water, and to get some green feed for the beasts. We took in five thousand gallons of water there and treated the elephants to a feast of green grass, which they eat with a hearty relish, and showed in their elephantine fashion the liveliest gratitude to those who fed them. They used twenty-five thousand gallons of water on this passage, and eat up 125 bales of hay, averaging 275 pounds per day, which food was in addition to two bushels of gramm and paddy; the last rolled up in the form of little balls or cakes, and fed to them from the hands of their Singhalese keepers.

Every individual on board would occasionally give them a sea biscuit, which was esteemed by the elephants on the voyage, which I suppose they will always retain. One of them was known as Mandoy. This animal was the king elephant of the whole crew of them. He belongs to what the natives call high caste, and all the other beasts were afraid of him. He was, without doubt, with the exception of another high caste elephant that was my favorite, and whom I called Nehemiah Gibson, the most knowing creature in the whole lot. Mandoy was everybody's favorite, and I believe he will make his mark in the States. Another one that we called Rajah was the largest animal among them, and weighs 2,000 pounds. Then there was the baby elephant only eight years old and weighing 800 pounds. The elephant that died on the passage had every thing done to save him that was possible, but nothing would avail.

On the day of their arrival the elephants were landed. The arrangements for hoisting the animals from the bark to the pier were ropes and pulleys fastened in the rigging, and canvass slings. There was no trouble in landing the first three. The fourth one was the elephant called Mandoy. This brute became quite unruly before the sling was fixed, and roared and threw his trunk about in a rage. The men handling him became frightened, and the captain went below and finally trapped, and as he was hauled up and suspended in the air he flapped his big ears, worked his huge legs, and threw his trunk around wildly. When he landed on the pier he showed some signs of rage at the jeering crowd who were looking on, and at the same time the three elephants already landed broke from their fastening to a post on the pier. The animals were all secured again, and were led off toward the depot of the Hudson River Railroad, and they were lodged for the night in a yard in connection with the stables of that railway, on Eleventh avenue.

On the morning after their arrival, about 9 o'clock, it was made known that they would leave that place for the railway station, between Ninth and Tenth avenues; and a large crowd assembled.—Soon the largest gates of the stable were thrown open, the elephants marched out, and the distance to the depot was was soon accomplished. Five large produce cars were drawn up for their reception near the passengers' platform, which was surrounded by a number of employees of the Company, and a few favored outsiders who gained admittance at the entrance gate.

The arrangements for moving the animals from the platform to the cars were very simple. Strong planks were laid down from the platform to the cars, and the cars being only a few inches higher than the platform, the incline they had to ascend was slight. Two were placed in in each car, and there was very little trouble in getting the first four couples into the first four cars. The remaining couple consisted of the baby elephant, and the largest one in the troupe, called Rajah. After some little difficulty the baby was got in, but Rajah seemed determined not to enter his new domicile. He roared and threw himself about when it was attempted to pull and push him in by force. He would not stir an inch. Presently he made a sudden dart in the opposite direction to which he was wanted to go, dragging the men who were holding the roye with him. He had not proceeded far before two of the keepers managed to get before him, and by the aid of their spears stopped him. He was brought back, and reached the door of the car, when he suddenly turned around and repeated his previous manœuvre. Again he was brought back, but blows from the sticks and spears could not make the unruly and obstinate brute enter the car.

At last Captain Smalley suggested that the baby should be brought out of the car again, with the idea that when Rajah saw it come out and re-enter he would follow it. After a little coaxing and a sop of sponge cake and sugar candy the Captain's idea had the desired effect. Slowly feeling every inch of his way, and not moving more than one inch at a time, Rajah at last walked into the car. No sooner had this feat been accomplished than trusses of hay and barrels of water were placed in each car, the barrels being screwed to the sides and bottom. The Superintendent of the line also ordered a carpenter to bore several holes in each car two inches in diameter, in order to give the animals plenty of air. A baggage and passenger car was furnished for the keepers and others, and soon after they were loaded, a powerful engine was attached and the train started on its special journey.

Keep Straight Ahead.

Pay no attention to slanders or gossip mongers. Keep straight on in your course, and let their backbiting die the death of neglect. What is the use of laying awake nights, brooding over the remarks of some false friend that runs through your brain like forked lightning? What's the use of getting into a worry and fret over gossip that has been set afloat to your disadvantage by some meddlesome busybody, who has more time than character. These things can't possibly injure you, unless, indeed, you take notice of them, and in combating them give them character and standing. If what is said about you is true, set yourself right at once; if it is false, let it go for what it will fetch. If a bee stings you, would you go to the hive and destroy it? Would not a thousand come upon you? It is wisdom to say little respecting the injuries you have received. We are generally losers in the end, if we stop to refute all the backbitings and gossipings we may hear by the way. They are annoying, it is true, but not dangerous, so long as we do not stop to expostulate and scold. Our characters are formed and sustained by ourselves, and by our own actions and purposes and not by others. Let us always bear in mind that "calumnies may usually be trusted to time and the slow but steady justice of public opinion."

☞ A slight coolness rose between Julia and Augustus the other day at Newport. The attentive waiter separated them with a pyramid of ice cream.

☞ A young man generally gives a lock of his hair to his sweetheart before he marries her. After marriage she sometimes helps herself, and don't use scissors.

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August 5 1871—y

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—:o:—

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Two, three, and four prong forks, shovels, spades, hoes, rakes, post spades, grain scoops, [illegible] scythes, briar hooks, trace chains, breast [illegible] and halter chains, brass and iron chain [illegible] yoke yard, carriage, plow and tire bolts by the hundred or dozen, from 15 to 100 cts. per dozen; barrel bolts; tower nicked, flush and shutter bolts, rip and cross cut saws, pruning, meat, back, compass, keyhole, web and wood saws of Diston, Spear, Jackson, and Brown's manufacture; hinge nails, cut, wrought, finishing, clout, fence, and galvanized nails, by the pound or keg; horse shoe nails, tacks, galvanized tacks, carriage tacks, pump & carpet tacks, curry combs, sad irons, augurs, post augurs, Coops, Pugh and Bright lip augur bits, wood and iron braces, iron and steel squares, try squares, rules, guages, framing and firmer chisels, gouges, levels, compasses, compass dividers, hooks and staples, staples, brass screw rings, hand-rail screws, screws from ½ inch to 3 inches; screw drivers, smoothing, jack and fore planes, plane bits, one and two foot rules; tin, iron and plated tea and table spoons; a large assortment of knives and forks, carvers, ivory handle tea and table knives; strap and T hinges, hooks and hinges, Mayer's, Tull & Porter, and Seymor window blind butts, table, parliament and brass hinges, acorn butts, knob locks, plate, pad, rim, dead, trunk, till, wardrobe, chest, drawer, and jail pad locks, hat and coat hooks, thumb latches, door latches, barn door latches, brass and leaf spickets, molasses gates, coal oil spickets, tap borers, mill saw, bastard, round, half-round, taper and saw files, horse rasps, monkey wrenches, carpenters' and shoe pincers, round and flat nippers, bed and plate castors, door bells, farm bells, frame and axle pulleys, drawer pulls, shutter and blind fasteners, turn buckles, gimlets, window springs, hooks and eyes, closet latches, sash fasteners, wad cutters, gun worms, heads, tubes and caps, brass and iron buttons, pad, cabinet and door locks, keys, taper files, chest handles, door stops, harness awls and needles, cow bells, coffee mills, axle clips, tea scales, brick, plaster and garden trowels, hatchets, hammers, post axes, hand and broad axes; a large assortment of scissors, razors, brushes, strap with hone, harness hooks, porcelain-head picture nails, copper rivets and burs, punches, porcelain shutter knobs, glue kettles, stew pans, tobacco cutters, pruning knives and shears, saw sets, wagon and cart boxes, &c., &c., &c.
WOOD WARE.
Tubs, buckets, churns, wood bowls, wash boards, well buckets, sugar and coffee boxes, brooms, baskets, potato mashers, rolling pins, butter prints and paddles, lemon squeezers, safes, dust, scrub, horse, wall, paint & white wash brushes, fork, spade, broom, shovel, awl, saw, chisel, plane, augur, hatchet and ax handles, &c., &c.
J. K. ALDRIDGE.
Chestertown, April 1, 1871.

BENJAMIN STRAUSS'
CLOTHING HOUSE,
Cor. of High and Cross sts.,
Chestertown, Md.
CONSTANTLY ON HAND A FULL SUPPLY OF
Fashionable and seasonable
CLOTHING.
SUITS MADE TO ORDER
OF THE BEST MATERIALS, AND IN CITY STYLE.
Jan. 7, 1871—y.

NEW GOODS.
June 10th, 1871.
T. W. ELIASON, JR.,
DRY GOODS, NOTIONS,
HOSIERY, HARDWARE,
LADIES', MISSES, CHILDRENS', INFANTS', GENTS AND BOYS'
PLAIN and FANCY BOOTS & SHOES,
FLOOR AND TABLE OIL CLOTHS,
WINDOW OIL CLOTH CURTAINS,
MATTINGS, &c.
T. W. ELIASON, JR.,
HAS just received from Philadelphia and Baltimore markets a large assortment of the above Goods, purchased at the lowest net cash prices, and offered for sale at a moderate advance upon cost.
He respectfully invites the attention of his customers and the public generally to his stock of Goods. [June 10, 1871.

NOTICE.
Cut this out and keep it for Reference.
WHEN YOU VISIT THE CITY GO TO
W. H. RINGGOLD'S,
95 N. Charles Street,
AND BUY ALL YOUR
UNDER SHIRTS AND DRAWERS,
HOSIERY AND GLOVES,
NOTIONS AND FANCY GOODS.
He can sell them
Cheaper than any one!
And you can
Pay your expenses in your purchases!
☞ DON'T FAIL TO GO: HE HAS THE VERY ARTICLE YOU WANT.
Do not forget the Number!
W. H. RINGGOLD,
95 N. Charles st., 3 doors South of Mulberry.
Baltimore, Sept. 24, 1870.

BUY THE FIRST NATIONAL WHITE LEAD. It is the cheapest, most durable and brilliant of any Lead in the market. For sale by
C. F. STAM & BRO.,
May 6, 1871—y. Chestertown, Md.

TWIN BROTHERS YEAST CAKES,
THE BEST RISING NOW IN USE. it never sours.
June 17. C. F. STAM & BRO.

A LARGE assortment of Tin Ware, Japanned Ware, Toilet Sets, Stamped Ware, &c. J. K. ALDRIDGE.

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