FOR OUR FARMERS.

What is the most important thing for our farmers to do in the emergency that is upon them?

By all means get knowledge; read, study, discuss, reflect.

What next?

Let your indignation arise; get mad, red hot; and in the spirit of manhood demand that imposition and injustice shall stop; that plunderers keep their hands out of your pockets; that the leeches who are sapping the prosperity of the people whether at home or abroad, shall stand aside, and give the plain people a chance to make an honest living. Nothing can be done without knowledge; salvation can come only through the inherent manhood of the farmers of the United States. It was this that made the nation in the beginning under Washington, and this only can save it now.

Then as to fertilizers, for which much money is paid out on every farm—more than need be, or rather the money that is spent for fertilizers is not spent judiciously. Where stock is kept and considerable barn manure made, is ordinarily not necessary to buy fertilizers containing nitrogen, because by frequent rotation of crops and a clover sod plowed down, there will be sufficient of this element. And be it remembered that in a ton of fertilizer, costing, say $33, one-third can be saved by omitting the nitrogen and retaining only the potash and phosphates. That is, for $22, instead of $33, you can get what your soil needs to produce the crop. And in some sections the soil does not call for potash, having this element supplied by nature in exhaustless quantities. Most soils need phosphate, and it is rare that one can buy too much of this. We do not believe that farmers buy too much commercial fertilizers, but some do not buy wisely, and this is a source of untold waste in our agriculture. See, therefore, that the home supply of manure is as large as it is possible to make it; grow clover freely, feed it to the horses, cows, hogs, sheep and chickens, and every year plow down one-sixth the farm of clover sod; quit buying so much costly nitrogen; experiment with potash to see if your soil needs it. Thus you may save many dollars that now go to waste.

The above are important Farmers' Problems, and should be taken up and considered at the present time, never forgetting, however, that larger ones remain unsettled; for no matter how well the farmer may manage, how much he may toil and save, he can never prosper while trusts are allowed to plunder him, while railroads and other corporations are allowed to sell the country out to foreign money lenders; and while there are twenty corporation attorneys in Congress to every farmer, many of them put there by the farmers themselves. We will make the best use of the opportunities that are left us as we go along, but must insist upon a fair field for our endeavor in the future.

Trees for the home are a great ornament and comfort, but set to close too the dwelling they become a menance to the health by encouraging dampness.

More About the San Jose Scale.

PROF. A. S. FORBES, URBANA, ILLINOIS.

The San Jose scale (pronounced San Hosay) never lays eggs, but brings forth its young alive, and it passes the winter as a living insect. The "oyster-shell" bark louse and the "scurfy scale," on the other hand, lay eggs in the fall and then perish, their bodies drying away to thin scales under which the cluster of eggs deposited by each female may now be found. If one of these common scales be carefully lifted from the bark of an infested tree by the point of a pin, the minute oval eggs, to the number of twenty or more, may be readily seen by a pair of good eyes. In the "oyster-shell" species the eggs are yellow, and in the scurfy scale a dark red. These scales may both become very injurious; but very much less so, on the whole, than the San Jose species, with which, as will be seen, they need never to be confounded.

Live Stock Pointers.

A good stock farm should be a good grass farm.

Put every part of the farm to some profitable use.

A stunted animal will effect the profit of its future feeding.

There is no profit in the average crop. Now is the time to plan to do better.

An important question for the farmer to study is less cost for production.

Sheep are profitable stock when a protable kind is kept in a profitable manner.

Too much haste in producing fatness destroys the appetite and disturbs digestion.

An important point in stock feeding is to induce an animal to consume all it can assimilate properly.

Keep charcoal or wood ashes and salt where the hogs can help themselves. It will help maintain health.

One serious objection to the feeding of old and young stock together is that the older will crowd away the younger.

Do not keep old ewes. It is a better plan to stop breeding them when they get old, fatten them well and sell them for mutton.

Hatching Too Early.

Important Facts Which are Overlooked by Many Poultrymen.

If pullets are hatched too early they may molt in the fall, and for that reason it is not the practice to hatch them before March. This molting in the fall, instead of beginning to lay at that season, is the exception, and not the rule, but it is better not to hatch earlier. Keep in view the fact, also, that the large breeds require a longer time during which to grow than the small breeds, and that only the pullets of the large breeds should be hatched early. They are intended to come into service next fall, and then lay through the winter. Light Brahmas, Cochins and Plymouth Rocks should be hatched in March, Langshans, Wyandottes and Minorcas by April 10, and Leghorns, Hamburgs and other small breeds by May 1. The small breeds sometimes begin to lay when only five months old, and it is not always desirable for them to do so, as it is at the expense of vigor. The pullet that does not begin to lay until November, and then starts at work, will probably lay during the whole winter.

Charcoal for the Hens.

Charcoal is not used as grit, being too soft for that purpose. It has been found excellent, however, as a corrective of bowel disorders, especially when indigestion from overfeeding exists. It is of little value unless freshly burned, as it then possesses the property of absorbing gases. Those who use it for poultry should never place a lot of it in a poultry yard, but put a lump in the stove, allow it to become heated, then grind or pound it, a small piece for each day being sufficient.—*Farm and Fireside.*

Housewives Help.

The best way to wash bed blankets is not to wring them after the last rinsing, but to hang them on the line and let them drip dry. The nap is then not matted down and the blanket retains its beauty and new appearance.

Avoid putting metallic or other articles on or in the piano; such things frequently cause unpleasant vibrations and sometimes injure the instrument. The more equal the temperature of the room, the better the piano will stay in tune.

When cayenne pepper is not mixed with the thickening of soup, grind it down with the back of a spoon and stir a little liquid to it before it is thrown into the pot, as it is apt to remain in lumps, and so occasion irritation of the throat when swallowed.

The liver of the calf is better than any other, not even excepting goose liver. Lamb's liver is also better flavored, more tender, and less dry than that of sheep.

Those livers which present dark streaks and sandy spots are unwholesome and unfit to be eaten.

To make a delicate omelet take one cupful bread crumbs, soak in milk (one cupful) until soft. Add three beaten eggs, one-half teaspoonful salt, one-fourth spoonful of pepper. Beat well together, have tablespoonful of butter hot in pan, pour omelet in pan and bake as other omelets.

New Rule for Boiling Eggs.

Some time ago Bishop Paret, of Maryland, was the guest of an Episcopal family in West Virginia. Learning from the bishop that he liked hard boiled eggs for breakfast, his hostess went to the kitchen to boil them herself. While so engaged she began to sing the first stanza of the hymn "Rock of Ages." Then she sang the second stanza, the bishop, who was in the dining-room, joining in. When it was finished there was silence, and the bishop remarked: "Why not sing the third verse?" "The third verse?" replied the lady, as she came into the dining-room, carrying the steaming eggs, "oh that's not necessary." "I don't understand," replied Bishop Paret. "Oh! you see," she said, "When I am cooking eggs I always sing one verse for soft-boiled and two for hard-boiled."

Exercise.

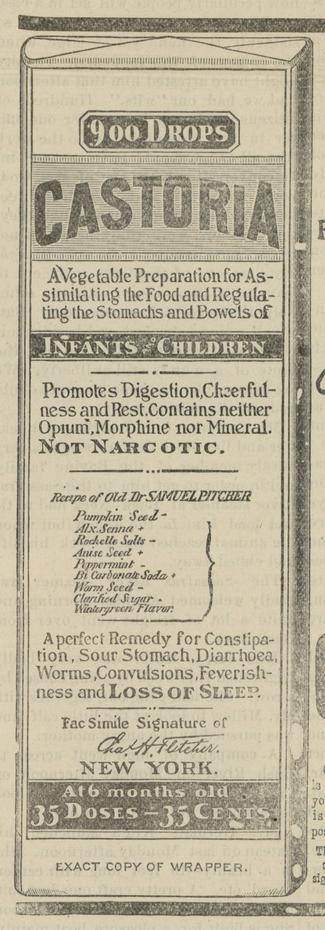
The latest idea in physical culture is the rule, when you are tired from worry or over-study, or excessive office work, don't lie down to rest, but go to gymnasium, fencing class or bowling alley and get the blood running rapidly through the muscles and nerves.

It is not altogether new, as many doctors and ex-college athletes have long since adapted the system and commended it for their friends. A distinguished lawyer in this city has what might be termed a gymnasium in one of the rooms of his office down town, and every day, when tired from the confinement of court, he goes through a vigorous program of difficult exercises.

The result is that, although past the half century mark, he is still a perfect model of physical strength and excellence.—*New York Mail and Express.*

To change one's nationality in Russia is not at the command of every purse. The first condition is that you should be a landowner for five years at the shortest, and that during the whole of that period you should have resided upon your property in that country. The next condition is that you should take the of allegiance to the czar.

Children Cry for Pitcher's Castoria.



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The best Washing Powder made. Best for all cleaning, does the work quickly, cheaply and thoroughly. Largest package—greatest economy.

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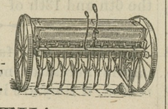
We sell the McCORMICK CORN CUTTER and HARVESTER, which has been tried and is a perfect success; also, the DAIN CORN CUTTER which will pay for itself in Harvesting from 40 to 50 acres of corn. So, farmers, it will you to buy one of these Cutters. Send in your orders at once. And we sell the

Bickford & Huffman Grain Drill,



which is considered the BEST and MOST DURABLE and RELIABLE DRILL on the market. And we REPAIR ALL KINDS OF GRAIN DRILLS. Farmers, look at your Drills and send them to us.

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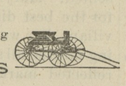

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We also have a nice line of

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Don't forget the place.

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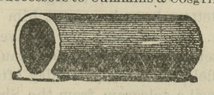

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By order of the Board of Commissioners.

n28-3t. W. H. LAMBERT, JR., CLERK.

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