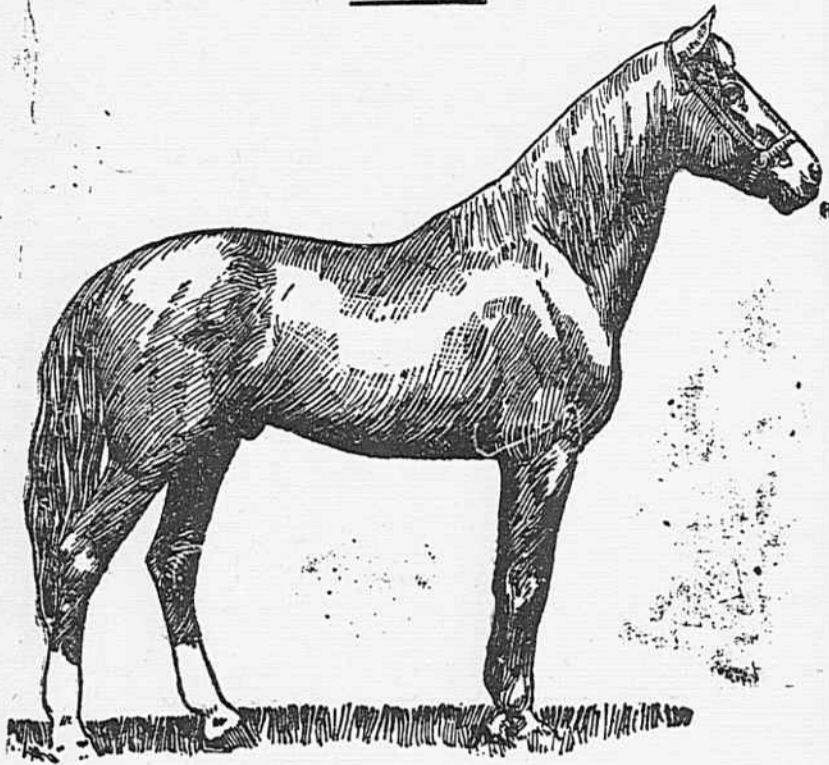


EXCELLENT UTILITY HORSE FOR GENERAL FARM PURPOSES

While Medium-Sized Animal Can Do Heavy Work in Proportion to His Weight. Yet He Is Unfit for Anything Else—One of Medium Weight Is Best for Agricultural Work.



A good type of farm horse. This is a cross between a German Coach stallion and a standard-bred mare. Has fine action and spirit and is heavy enough for all general work on the farm.

(By J. M. BELL, Virginia.)
The heavy draft has his place, so does the diminutive pony, but neither of these extremes in horseflesh fills the bill for general use on the farm.

One horse on our place, now in his twenty-third year, was practically sound after nineteen years of steady work, work which included hauling cordwood, lumber and railroad ties over roads which were never of the best, and this faithful beast did his part day after day in all weathers alongside of mules and other horses, many of which were heaving and the majority are now out of commission from age and other infirmities.

"Old Major," as he is known throughout the countryside, was raised and for 21 years belonged to the party who raised him, and was bought by the writer last spring.

His former owner was a country storekeeper, farmer and wood merchant, and withal a fox-hunter, weighing close to 200 pounds.

He and his saddle are a load for any horse in a run across country after a pack of Virginia hounds.

During each season and for a dozen years or more, "Old Major" bore his master on hunts innumerable with never a blunder, and from the time he was two and one-half years old until he was sold last spring he was the general utility animal around the premises.

It seems like stretching the truth to recount the 19 years of steady work of this remarkable horse; work under the saddle, in light and heavy harness, that would have killed many a heavier, or lighter horse long ago (for there is no more wearing work than that of the general-utility horse on the farm), a week's plowing followed by two or three days' light harness work, then a few more days' plowing, next, hauling the wood in a team, to say nothing of the Sunday trip to church.

It is not my object to say anything derogatory regarding the merits of any type of horse, for, as before stated, they all have their uses.

However, in passing, it is worthy of note that while the medium-size horse on the farm can do heavy work in proportion to his weight, yet the very heavy horse is utterly useless for anything but heavy work, being entirely out of place when it comes to work in the saddle or in light harness.

There are many farmers these days who are working on the intensive system, cultivating small areas of crops, some of these having left the city for the country.

Their families will want the horses to ride or drive occasionally, and unless these farms can keep extra horses, teams for work and also the pleasure horses, let them keep those of medium size weighing 1,000 to 1,100 pounds.

When a team of this size is not busy at farm work, they can be put to the surry or carriage and make a fair showing on the road, as a pleasure team.

Beside doing considerable farm work since I have owned this horse, I have driven him regularly.

The conformation of "Old Major" is most excellent from a standpoint of service; his head is well set on his neck, and his neck is well set in his shoulders, which are strong and deeply muscled at the same time; his barrel is fine and round; in other words, he is well ribbed out.

His coupling is good, his hips wide but not ragged, while his loins and thighs are indicative of strength.

His hocks are good and clean of blemishes, likewise his pasterns; with the exception of slight wind puffs, his common bones are flat and broad; his feet are rather small and too narrow at the heels, causing him to suffer at one time from contracted heels, owing partly, no doubt, to poor and careless shoeing. This defect has been greatly remedied since I have had him shod under the direction of a competent veterinary.

One more word about our old friend: His feed, since he was weaned up to the present time, was corn of the ear as a grain ration, from 12 to 11

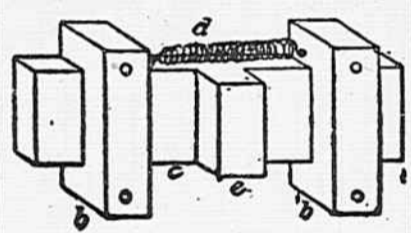
ears twice daily, hay for roughage, with corn stover, cut shucks, occasionally, but generally hay.
He has had very little shelled oats, bran or mill stuff.
Since I have owned him, which is for the past year, I have fed him some bran and oats, but he still grinds whole corn well.

GOOD PLAN FOR SELF-CLOSING GATE

Illustrations and Detailed Instructions for the Construction of a Convenient Entrance.

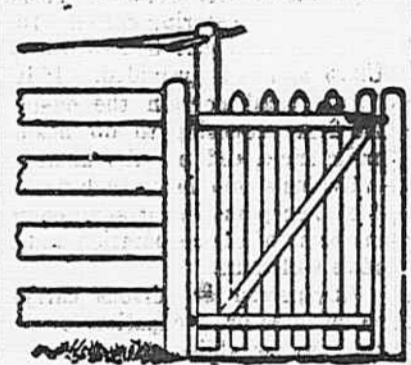
Here is a good plan for a self-closing gate, writes E. J. Wehrin, in the Orange Judd Farmer. The upright piece at the hinge end of the gate is made higher than the post it swings on. A crossbar is driven tightly through a hole, at right angles with the gate. Make the crossbar 2 feet long or over and run wires from the ends of the crossbar to a point 2 feet from the crossbar and continue by a single wire for 1 foot.

A spiral spring from a mower binder is here attached and a wire is connected with this spring and run to the second post of the fence. This



Gate Latch Construction.

gate will swing either way and be pulled shut again. A latch made as described in the drawing will be a great help. Take a piece of hard wood, oak or maple, and saw as indicated at a. This should be 6x2x2 and sawed so e should be 1 inch thicker than the thin parts. Two pieces should be sawed like b, just so, the



Self-Closing Gate.

thin part of c will slide easily through it. Then saw a, making the groove 1/4 inches wide and its edges rounding so the latch will work easily, and attach to the fence post horizontally. A spiral spring from a shade roller is attached as shown in sketch. This is inexpensive but serviceable, and works finely if rightly made.

Milk From Common Goat.

A common goat will eat only one eighth as much as a cow, but will give more than that proportion in milk. Butter made from goats' milk will not keep and must be eaten fresh from the churn. In many parts of the east goats are being raised in larger numbers than ever before to supply milk and butter for the very poor.

Laborers in South America.

Farm laborers in the South American republic of Argentina receive \$1 in gold a day and their board during the busy season. On account of the cholera in Italy no emigrants from that country are now permitted in Argentina.

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AND THEN I WILL EXPECT TO BUY YOUR COTTON SEED. ALSO HAVE THE ARTICLES FOR YOU AS EVER.

E. S. JOHNSON.

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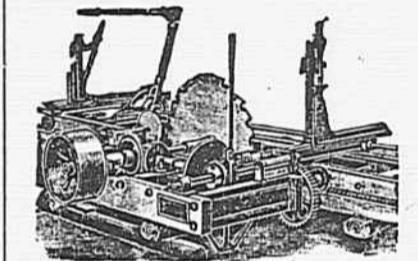
If any member of your family need a tonic that strengthens and builds, go to your druggist today and get a fifty-cent or a dollar bottle of R. L. T., and watch the quick, steady improvement. If your druggist can't supply you write R. L. T. Co., Anderson, S. C.

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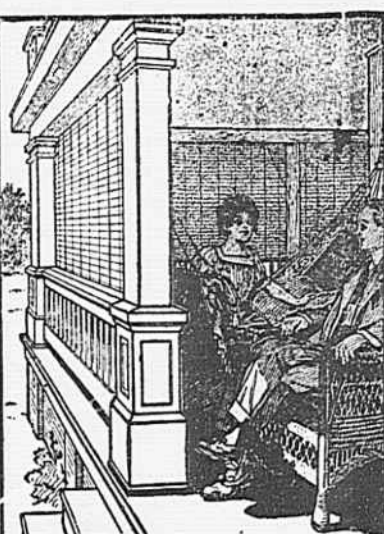
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