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By M. MAC LEAN.

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AGRICULTURAL.

From the Kentucky Farmer.
STRUCTURES ON THE ANIMATED CREATION.

MAN.—Of all animals, man is certainly the most prone to ferocity; it may be accounted for as being both carnivorous and frugivorous, which puts all the other animals of the creation, fit for food, under his control, in order to satisfy his real wants or to gratify his more luxurious appetites. Unlike the other animals, man soon acquires the habit of destroying for the mere pleasure of doing it, with epicurean luxury in his own way. The wild hunter, after all his wants are supplied, will kill buffaloes merely for the tongues or to eat their marrow and hunch, and abandon the rest to the birds and wolves, who, if they reflect at all, learn to look upon man as a powerful auxiliary to their prowling warfare. Not content with their own resources, and conscious of his inferior powers, man has associated some of the animal creation to his destructive wants and pleasures, and made their natural cruelty, if they had any, subservient to his own will, or if they have none, they are taught to acquire it. The way in which their services are too often required, is too well known to be dwelt upon. We shall only observe that the eight beautiful old grey horses, who had so long dragged Queen Charlotte of England, were immediately after her death "shot for the hounds."

Man, left to himself, can seldom improve his good propensities, and the absolute decree has said, "it is not good for man to be alone;" by this it is not understood that he shall confine himself to the society of men only, for nothing can be worse for men than their own exclusive society. Civilization has wisely encouraged the social intercourse of both sexes to soften the asperity of man's temper, and to bring out his better faculties. But even the excess of civilization is to be dreaded, inasmuch as it gives rise to new wants, and of course to an inordinate thirst for riches, the attainment of which can seldom be accomplished without crime, or at least without relinquishing the moral and virtuous principles so necessary for the duration of empires, or true domestic happiness.—(Over-civilization has a pernicious influence on the female sex. Women often speculate on matrimony with as much keenness as the male stock-jobber on public funds, with what success is best known to themselves; and it is truly for that class that marriage is become an awful lottery of many blanks to a prize. When the state of morality becomes so low, selfishness increases in proportion and celibacy is encouraged, at least in large towns; but farmers and other useful men want wives to add to their comforts and share in their prosperity. In vain does a manuring mother produce all her fashionable daughters to the markets of fashion; men do not want them; they are a dead stock, too often seen to be of any value.)

Domestic education alone can retard and counteract these evils, and there it is, that the influence of good mothers is and ought to be felt; in vain shall we pay for the best education abroad. We may acquire a complete knowledge of the classics, the modern languages, and all the &c.'s of learning. If at home sons and daughters are neglected as to the fundamental principles of honesty, self-denial, modesty and moderation, no professor can give them. There is no state so low in society that cannot afford that kind of domestic instruction to their children; and mothers are best to watch over and punish the bad dispositions of their children.—As to the mode of instruction for mothers even of the less informed class, those who speak in public might retrench some part of their sermons, exhortations, or politics, to expatiate upon the real duties of mankind, address themselves to the understanding of mothers, and explain their obligations towards their children, and the high importance of parental examples on the future welfare and respectability of their offspring. A few well-placed lectures from the teachers themselves upon that which constitutes the social virtues of men, provided they were short, and well adapted to the comprehension of their hearers, would certainly have a good effect, as many circumstances may prevent a man from being learned, but none will excuse him for being a rogue or a vicious being.

It is thought, generally, that man being endowed with reason, is more easily improved than animals; a perfect study of both might induce a philosopher to doubt

this assertion. If reason does much for man, his passions but too often counteract that faculty of which we are so proud.—As to what we call instinct of animals, it seems to be but another sort of reason, adapted to the wants of beasts, and even so far susceptible of improvement as to be no longer the blind impulses of nature, but in some degree joined to the faculty of memory and reflection; those powers increasing in proportion with the acquired wants of the animal.

THE HORSE.—[If I chose him as best calculated to support my assertions, it is not without reasons, having had more opportunities than most men to observe him. A horse, six years old, had been purchased in this town by a French circus rider, who spoke no English in teaching his horses; the animal had been used all his life to the English sounds; he must therefore have learned to receive the impression of the French sounds, and not only of the sounds, but of their meaning, so different from the English. In one month the horse obeyed all his master's commands in that language so new to him; even if we suppose that the lash helped this quickness in learning, where is the child, of the best abilities, that could be taught in so short a time, taking even the relative proportion between the comparative age of man and horse.]

I do not wish to lower man's reason below the brute; all I wish to establish is, that it was possible for the Supreme Being to endow many animals with more understanding than we generally suppose. That a colt should follow his mother in the woods is the impulse of nature, but has she taught him to find his way home through the wilderness, when later, his rider himself is bewildered? Leaving the beaten track, he swims rivers, climbs mountains, and reaches his home by the straightest and shortest way, which he never travelled before. The learned man takes out his compass, the Indian looks at the bark of trees; what had the horse to direct him? If "instinct" alone can do this, how far inferior is it to the reason of man? A horse of mine ran off in the night from a place where he had never been before, 20 miles from home, which he reached the next day at 12 o'clock, having gone over steep hills in the most direct and shortest way, where his tracks were seen. I owned another horse later, who staid in a yard, the bars of which were near his stable; when he wanted to go out, he would take down two or three bars with his teeth, and jump over the rest, most often go to the well, where two buckets go alternately up and down. When there was no water in the trough, he would seize the rope with his teeth, and endeavor to draw the bucket, or at least to make enough noise to bring somebody to get water for him, then he would let go the rope and neigh on seeing the person. In order to secure the bars, I put a strong peg and a twine on the upper one, but he soon found that by pulling the twine he could take out the peg, and went over as before. I then put a gate with a falling latch, but he overcame that new difficulty, and opening with his head the gate for his two companions, who seemed to watch his operations, he let them out, and went last, the gate shutting almost upon his hind legs.

He was an excellent and safe gig horse; when harnessed, he would invariably turn his head, and look attentively who was going to ride; his look said as plainly as looks could do, I must go according to your temper; if it was myself he went fast, if it was any other member of the family he would consult his own leisure; if any part of his harness was loose or broke, he would stop short, and if urged to go on, after going a few steps, he would stop again, which after having observed the horse's intentions, some of us would alight, and find either a buckle, or some other part of the harness amiss, that might have become dangerous if it had been left unattended.

All my remarks, however imperfect, on the animal part of the creation, proves to me that we ought to treat them differently if we wish to profit more effectually by their services. How many horses are lost by the brutality of their masters, or their keepers? Men and horses brought up gently, are certainly easier to lead and drive when grown up. The Arab keeps his horse in the same tent with his children, who sleep even in his legs. Let a horse run even in the field, a man or boy wants to catch him, he runs, because threats and blows await him when caught, but a woman by going more gently, is apt to catch him, by inspiring him with more confidence.

Marshall Sax urging his horse to leap a ravine, was surprised to see him back, a cannon ball crossed the ravine, after which the horse leaped over without any more urging. It was ascertained that the marshale would have been killed had his horse obeyed the spur. His master rewarded that service by assigning him a pension during his life. Who can explain those assemblies of crows and blackbirds that come to a particular spot to consult on what they had best do to find their food? Who is not forced to ad-

miro the different propensities of the dog, his fidelity, his almost human intelligence, his devoted love to his master whom he saves from drowning or being killed, at the risk of his own life, and for what reward? Not even the hope of any! One of my dogs that had been taught nothing of the kind, had laid down several hours at some distance from the house, he would not come when called; at last, on going to him, I saw him lying upon a leather throat-latch, left there by the black boy; when I took it up the dog came home joyfully.

An elephant had been deceived by a painter who wanted to draw his portrait with the mouth open; the painter, after having thrown apples in his mouth several times, at last made only the gesture, which the elephant resented by filling his trunk with dirty water, he blew it in a torrent upon the painter's paper, and spoiled his drawing; this we may call "instinct" but it is certainly of a very superior kind.

A very large volume might be filled with proofs that what we call the instinct of animals is not as blind a faculty as we are pleased to believe; and the author of the creation has extended its limits and capabilities of improvement in proportion to their wants either in relation to their utility to themselves or to man. Let us treat them with kindness which will give full scope to their natural abilities.

W. MENTELLE.

THE USE OF LIME.

MESSRS. EDITORS.—Although the agriculturists of the other great divisions of the earth, have availed themselves for centuries, (Pliny informs us that lime was used as a manure by the Romans, the Gauls and the Britons in his time,) of the extraordinary virtues of this mineral, to improve the soil or prevent exhaustion, and it is now being applied lavishly by the very best farmers of our country, with incalculable advantage on every variety of soils, yet the mass of the people of the United States, are obstinate skeptics with regard to its fertilizing properties. We admit some agricultural districts continue very productive without any application of lime; but these soils all either are found to contain a due proportion of carbonate of lime, or they are plentifully supplied by their owners with animal manures, which contain the necessary alkaline substances for vegetation; however, the addition of lime, still would produce wonderful effects eventually. Lime being an essential constituent of the pabulum of plants, none perhaps requiring in their organization a larger proportion of lime than wheat; without lime being contained in the soil, gluten, an important component property in the grain of wheat, cannot be formed; hence the necessity of supplying soils which have been exhausted, or have been in their natural formation destitute of carbonate of lime. It is just as necessary as to furnish fowls with lime and silex, in the absence of which their eggs would be laid without shells. Why then is it, that the farmers of New England, and indeed many in this and other States, cannot grow wheat on soils now, which yielded golden harvests to their original pioneers? The reason is plain and incontrovertible; the farmers have exhausted their soils of the necessary constituents of wheat, and especially lime? So let them supply the defective material at any reasonable expense, and their lands will produce as formerly. Eventually the farmer's success and prosperity will almost hinge on the regular and judicious application of lime, or other alkalies, in its absence.—Cultivator.

MAKING PORK.

MESSRS. EDITORS.—I am favored occasionally with an opportunity of looking over different agricultural journals, and in a late number of the Boston Cultivator, I noticed a statement on fattening hogs, part of which I copy for your paper, adding some remarks, and a little of my experience in the same business. The statement is by Mr. Smith, of Duxbury, Mass.

"I killed two hogs, one sow, and six pigs which the sow raised; their weights were, the two hogs 631, and 566 lbs., the sow 509, the six pigs 1,200 lbs. Total 2,906 pounds.

"They have eat 250 bushels of corn a 60 cts. \$150; and 200 bushels of vegetables at 30 cents, making in the whole \$210.

"My manner of feeding them was as follows: From the first day of September to the first day of March, their breakfast was raw potatoes; their dinner raw turneps, beets or carrots; their supper one quart of corn each. The first day of March I filled their trough with corn and water, and kept it so until the day I killed them. I had a warm place for them to sleep in; and a yard where I make my manure 36 by 26 feet, with a stone bottom, and have now in it, which I have made this summer, 125 horse loads. I care not what the breed of a hog is, if they will eat well, and we do our part, and give them plenty of corn."

Now for my experience. Last year I fed six hogs, about 18 months old. They had the run of pasture, and the slops of the kitchen in the summer, and were part up for feeding the middle of September.

To feed them, I put in my hog house 150 bushels of potatoes, and 250 bushels of apples. These were cooked in a steamer containing about 15 bushels, and the proportions used were about equal. All the grain I fed them was not equal in value to five bushel of corn. They were killed the first of December: Lightest 345, heaviest 430, average 375, total weight 2,250 lbs. Mr. Smith does not say what his pork was worth, perhaps \$4, perhaps \$8 per cwt. If the first, it was worth \$116.24 if the last, \$232.48. At the same rates mine would have been worth \$90 or \$180. Now for the expense of feeding. My potatoes were worth eighteen cents per bushel, my apples perhaps 10 cts., certainly not more; making for both potatoes and apples, a value of Dol. 42; call the grain Dol. 3, and the value of the whole food is Dol. 45. Forty-five from two hundred and ten, would leave one hundred and sixty-five as the difference in the cost of feeding the two lots; comparatively the operation would stand as follows:

	No. of pigs.	Total weight feeding.	Value at \$4 or \$8
Mr. Smith's,	9	29' 6	\$210
Mine,	6	2256	45
			90 180

Difference, 3 656 \$168 \$26.24 52.48

Thus it appears that at the least price Mr. Smith lost in feeding Dol. 82.76 and at the highest gained only Dol. 22.48; while at the lowest rate mine exceeded in the cost of feeding Dol. 45, and at the highest Dol. 135. It must be remembered, however, that the value of the hogs, and the labor of feeding is omitted in all these estimates, and should be deducted to ascertain the true profit or loss of the feeding.

I cannot agree with Mr. Smith that the breed of hogs is of no consequence so long as there is corn enough. I am satisfied by experience that there is a difference among our swine (excluding the pet breeds of Berkshire and China,) so great, that at the same age, the same quantity of food will make 50 per cent more pork in one breed than in another. I have been led to believe that the criterion of value in a hog, was, not in the quantity of food he could eat, but in the flesh the food would make. I am sure my brother farmers must love raising corn better than I do valuable as the crop is, if they prefer feeding pigs a year on the grain unbroken, and the roots raw, to using one-half the quantity of corn so required, when ground and mixed with the same roots, or a larger quantity steamed. In my opinion cooking food for animals is one of the greatest improvements in modern husbandry, and feeding grain as was done by Mr. S. a downright waste; and I am glad to perceive, by his comments on Mr. Smith's letter, that Mr. Buckminster is of the same opinion.

In one thing the statement of Mr. S. has my most cordial assent; and that is in the value of hog manure, and the propriety of increasing it as much as possible. Pigs are excellent workers at that business, if the proper materials are provided. I have a yard like Mr. S., but without his stone bottom. Into this, straw, weeds, and muck, are put as wanted, or as most convenient, and are thoroughly incorporated with the manure and urine by treading and rooting. These materials absorb and retain the parts that would be most likely to escape and the whole mass applied to a corn or root crop in the spring, will give an increased crop in many cases equivalent to half the ordinary product, and nearly defraying the expense of feeding.

AN ONONDAGA FARMER.

TO DESTROY MOTH.

A friend of our from Muskingham township requests us to state that the following very simple expedient for destroying moths, those troublesome insects which often make such havoc among honey bees. In the evening, when the moths begin to fly about, he placed saucers or bowls filled with boiled cider, around his hives, and some mornings the whole surface of the fluid would be covered with these bee tormentors.—They appeared not to have troubled the bees at all, but to have collected on the cider. This expedient he says he has tried and found to succeed well.

Zanesville Gaz.

WHEAT.

Messrs. P. A. & S. Small, of York, Pa. have addressed to the editors of the "American" the following note, relative to a species of wheat grown by them, which they deem worthy the attention of agriculturists.

"We noticed in the 'American' of 25th June, some remarks on several specimens of white wheat cut from the fields of Mr. Joseph Pearson, near Baltimore. We presume they are the produce of the seed got from us last season. The large grain wheat, (call it what you please) is of foreign origin, brought to this country about five years ago. A small quantity was sown by a gentleman from this town but it did not succeed very well, having frozen out. It appeared as though it could not stand a hard winter. Thinking it worth a trial, however, we procured some seed and have been successful in its cultivation ever since, and are of the opinion that it has now become acclima-

ted. We have no hesitation in saying that it will produce as much to the acre as any other wheat we ever saw, with perhaps the exception of the Genesee, which is also a very handsome, white sort, with a red chaff. The heads of this latter are remarkable for their size, being nearly twice the length of the generality of wheat grown in this region. As we have never heard of its cultivation heretofore, we think it well to state how it was brought forward, which was in the following manner. About 4 years ago we sowed an excellent sort of wheat, which we obtained from Mr. Stanley, of your city, which he called Genesee.—When we were cutting it, our late father, a short time before his death, noticed some heads which were remarkable for their size and beauty. We accordingly selected as many as produced a few quarts of grain, and we sowed this and its produce from time to time, and find that it has not degenerated. In this way we think we have succeeded in introducing, if not producing, a species of wheat which is worth the attention of agriculturists. As it regards the quality for bread of the above two kinds, the large grain—mountain wheat, if you please—is the best we ever ground in our mills. We obtained half a bushel of the famous Rock wheat last season, and sowed it in the same field with the Mountain and Genesee—and although it is good it bears no comparison with either of the others."

PREPARATION OF HAMS IN KENTUCKY.

Messrs. Gaylord and Tucker.—There have been published many modes of curing bacon; and in the cases in which these have been the result of experience they may all be successful, and entitled to the confidence of the public. Some, perhaps, are more simple, less laborious and more uniformly safe than others.—The following mode has stood the test of thirty-five years' experience without a single failure—of twenty-seven years in Spotsylvania county, Virginia, and of eight in Kentucky, where I now reside. I can, therefore recommend it as a safe and certain mode of making sound, sweet bacon. The salt used in Virginia was Liverpool blows salt; in Kentucky the Kanhawa and Goose creek. The ashes from hickory or the sugar maple.

I will now begin at the beginning, and describe the whole process minutely, promising however, that to have good bacon we must have good pork, neatly dressed or cleaned. It is important that the hogs should be killed in proper weather, by which I mean that the weather should be such that the hogs, hung up after they are cleaned, should not be only cold to the touch, but feel stiff, not frozen, after hanging up till the animal heat is out. I always kill on one day, and cut out and salt up the next. If the weather is quite cold after they are stiff, I put the hogs in the cellar that they may not freeze; if the weather is moderately cool, I let them hang up in the air all night. The cutting out is the next operation. This need not be described further than to say that the back bone or chine should be taken out, as also the spare ribs from the shoulders, and the mouse pieces and short ribs or griskins from the middlings. No acute angles should be left to shoulders or hams. In salting up in Virginia, I put all the meat, except the heads, jowls, chines, and smaller pieces, into powdering tubs (water tight half-hogsheads.) In Kentucky I have used large troughs, ten feet long three or four feet wide at the top, made of the Liriodendron tulipifera or poplar tree. These are much the most convenient for packing the meat in, and are easily caulked if they should crack so as to leak. The salting tray or box in which the meat is salted, piece by piece, and from which each piece, as it is salted, is to be transferred to the powdering tub or trough, must be placed just so near the trough, that the man standing between can transfer the piece from one to the other easily, and without wasting the salt as they are lifted from the salting box into the trough. The salter stands on the off-side of the salting box. Salt the hams first, the shoulders next, and the middlings last, which may be piled up two feet above the top of the trough or tub.—The joints will thus in a short time be immersed in brine.

Measure into your salting tray, four measures of salt, (a peck measure I have found most convenient,) and one measure of clean dry sifted ashes; mix and incorporate them well. The salter takes a ham into the tray, rubs the skin side with this composition and the raw hock ends, turns it over and packs the composition of salt and ashes on the fleshy side till it is at least three quarters of an inch deep all over it, and as much on the interior lower part of the ham, which is covered with the skin, as will lay on it. The man who stands ready to transfer the pieces as they are salted, takes up the piece and deposits it carefully without displacing the composition, with the skin side down, in the bottom of the trough. Each suc-

ceeding ham is thus deposited side by side, so as to leave the least possible space unoccupied. When the bottom is all covered, see that every visible part of this layer of meat is covered with the composition of salt and ashes. Then begin another layer, every piece being covered on the upper or fleshy side three quarters of an inch thick with the composition. When your trough is filled even full in this way with the joints, salt the middlings with salt only without the ashes, and pile them upon the joints so that the liquified salt may pass from them into the trough. Heads, jowls, back-bones, &c., receive salt only, and should not be put in the trough with the large pieces. Much slighter salting will preserve them if they are salted upon loose boards, so that the bloody brine from them can pass off. The joints and middlings are to remain in and above the trough without being rehandled, resalted or disturbed in any way till they are hung up to be smoked. If the hogs weighed not more than 150 pounds, the joints need not remain longer than five weeks in the pickle; if they weighed 200, or upwards, six or seven weeks is not too long. It is better that they should stay in too long rather than too short a time. In three weeks, jowls, &c. may be hung up.—Taking out of pickle and preparation for hanging up to smoke is thus performed: Scrape off the undissolved salt, and if you had put on as much as directed, there will be a considerable quantity on all the pieces not immersed in the brine. This salt and the brine is all saved; the brine boiled down and the composition given to stock, especially to hogs. Wash every piece in lukewarm water, and with a rough towel clean off salt and ashes.—Put the strings in to hang up. In Virginia I used for strings white oak splits, in Kentucky hempen strings. Set the pieces up edgewise that they may drain and dry. Every piece is then to be dipped into the meat paint, and hung up to smoke. The meat paint is made of warm, not hot, water and very fine ashes, stirred together till they are of the consistence of thick paint. When the pieces are dipped in this, they receive a coating which protects them from the fly, prevents dripping, and tends to lessen all external injurious influences. Hang up while the pieces are yet moist with the paint, and smoke them well. In this way I have cured from six to eight thousand pounds of bacon every year, for twenty-seven years in Virginia, and eight in Kentucky.

I use at least three bushels of salt to 1,200 pounds of meat. This may be thought extravagant but it insures success, and none of it lost. For what is left is all fed to the stock, and being mixed with ashes, I believe has a tendency to promote their health more than salt alone.

Should you desire it, I will, at some future time, give you our mode of drying up lard, which is not exactly that in common use.

Very truly, your obedient servant,
JOHN LEWIS.
Liangollen, Ky. March, 15 1841.
Cultivator.

CURE OF LOCK-JAW IN A MARE.—Owing to the adoption of a remedy suggested in the *Hereford Journal*, a valuable mare, the property of Mr. Stanbury, of L. Dow, was recently effectually saved from death by lock jaw, produced by mal treatment for sand-crack. We give the detail of the circumstance in the words of the owner of the animal:—"In consequence of one of the tendons being injured by a smith, lock-jaw was caused: the best advice was procured, but it proved of no avail, the mare gradually sunk day by day for upwards of a fortnight, and my distress at seeing a creature, which had been my companion for years, suffer so much, induced me at last to give directions that she should be shot. I left home in the morning, and mentioned the circumstances to a friend who is a subscriber to the *Hereford Journal*, and, to my surprise, he pointed out a case of a cure of lock-jaw, mentioned in an old number of the paper. Many minutes did not elapse before I was on my road home to countermand the order for the destruction of the animal, and the proposed remedy was immediately put in operation. Between two and three hogsheads of water was thrown upon her spine and repeatedly. I thought she must sink under it, but persevering, I at last perceived her skin as it were to creep upon her; this over, she was well wrapped up in blankets, and by kind treatment and diligent attention to her, with nourishing diet and gruel, she recovered, and has since been as well as ever she was." The owner of the animal is naturally anxious for the benefit of the public, and because he thinks this is a striking proof of the utility of the hints frequently given in newspapers.

HORSES.—To form a proper idea of this noble and generous creature we ought to see him in his native wild, untamed and undisciplined by man. Wild horses are found in several parts of the old continent and in the warm climates of Africa.