

The Farm.
FARM WORK FOR MARCH.

MANURES.
Haul out manure whenever you get the chance. Spread it as hauled and sow plaster over it to fix the ammonia as fast as it is given out. Save all the ashes, soil, poultry and pigeon house gatherings and compost the whole with one part plaster, and add to these four times the quantity of rich dried earth or woods crotch not too damp. Turn over the mixture often and get it well manured, that you may have an invaluable article to use on your corn hills, about a gill in a hill, on the poorer spots of the field, or if you have enough for the whole crop so much the better; we never saw earth too rich for any field crop, unless the parsnip, for which manure is not so good. It is said, and our experience tells us it is so, that on rich land the parsnip will not grow straight and free from the side root. So you may leave it in the ship patch, while you are spreading lavishly the manures.

ROOT CROPS.
It is now admitted that it is the part of good farming to cultivate roots in proportion to the amount of your stock. We therefore suggest, that at once you manure say one, two or three acres very heavily, and plow deep, very deep, and get in good order with the harrow, for sugar Beets or Mangolds.

SEEDS.
The sowing of Clover seed should progress; sow also, orland grass, red top, ryegrass, one or all, the more sorts the better will be the future pasture. If clover is sown alone we advise not less than 12 pounds per acre. If clover and orland grass be sown together, 10 pounds of clover and one bushel of orland grass seed will be enough. It requires the same quantity of ryegrass seed per acre, as orland grass. The two grasses resemble each other very much to the general observer. Sow only when the soil is still and harrow lightly; if the land is light, roll after harrowing in the seed. If the ground be hard, use a heavier harrow or a weight on the harrow. If the ground has not already been plowed, use a harrow over the newly sown seed. Should the weather prove dry, after sowing for a week or so, roll all means, so as to compress the earth about the seeds, thus giving them protection and some moisture.

KEEPING POULTRY FOR PROFIT.
I have told a reader how he can start in the poultry business on a cheap plan, and now I will tell him how to manage afterward. In picking out his flock to start with, let him choose as many good Dominique pullets as he can, and then get Brahma cocks to put with them, for I think the cross-bred while young are better for the table than pure Brahmas—there will be more meat, but not so big a frame of bones, and the pullets will keep longer. Let him get a few layers, and set to work at once, each on from thirteen to fifteen eggs, and when they hatch give the chicks to one hen, and shut the other up for a day or two. Get a stout string four or five feet long; tie one end into a piece of leather just long enough to go around the leg, and fasten the string to a small peg, driven into the ground, so that the hen cannot walk the string up on it. Then place a box or barrel just near enough, so that the hen can go in at night; and put a piece of board about two feet long by the box, to feed the chickens on while you feed them meat.

I always feed them Indian meal, wet up as I need it—not waiting for it to dry, but wetting it with water, and sometimes with buttermilk, if I have it, which is very good. I feed them the meal for four or five days, and then, if I can get wheat screenings, mix them together, wet and feed them, or get buckwheat and feed them part of the time. I never feed them at one time more than they can eat, only what they will pick up clean. Be sure and keep water by them, and in the long hot days renew it twice a day. Managed this way, I have never been troubled much with the gaps. Keep the hen tied up about two weeks—then let her range with her brood. Feed her by her box, and let her roost three nights, until the chickens are about six weeks old; then after dark take the box with chickens into the hen-house for two or three nights, after which the box may be put away or used for another hen, and the hen will call the chickens to roost the next night herself. The reason I tie with a string is, the hen can see and warn her brood from the approach of cats, or what gives me some trouble. She has hawks; and it is better for both brood and hen than to be shut in a coop.

From the 1st of April until the 1st of August I would turn every egg into a chicken that I could; for there is more money to be made raising chickens from a number of hens than to keep them for their eggs. I had one hen this season four years old (which is one year too old) to keep that laid her eggs in a nest alone, each litter that she laid. Beginning the 1st of April to keep account, she laid 23 eggs and then wanted to sit. I set her on 13 of her own eggs, which she brought out 12 and raised 11. She left them when about six weeks old, and then laid 21 eggs; I set her on 12 again, and she brought out 10 and raised 8, and left them when about six weeks old. She then laid 19 eggs up to the 1st of October. Part of her chickens were sold as soon as big enough to bring 50 cents apiece, and calling the whole worth 30 cents each, would bring in 80.50. After I let her loose with her chicks, she did not come to get fed much more than half the time so that the whole cost of their feed I think was less than \$1. when raising for market, I always sell as soon as the chickens are big enough to bring 50 cents apiece or more, if early in Spring—that is, I keep picking out the largest ones to the flock. Managed as I have done, I think, to lay the feed, that I can raise 100 chickens at a cost of not more than \$15.

I have found that the White Sweet Swede turnip is good for chickens—cooked and then mashed and mixed with about an equal amount of cornmeal. Mix in so that it will be as near dry as you can. The same when you mix a potato mash—mix it too thick to pour. Potatoes cooked and mixed with corn meal I think cannot be beaten for feeding young hens. I can get more eggs well feeding than that anything else I ever tried. I have great faith in feeding cooked food to poultry and swine.

—THE PRAMER FARMER in answer to a question, gives the following information respecting snout in wheat: "Theorists" differ in relation to what is generally known as snout in wheat. Jethro Tull states that the difficulty was common in England, till some of the wheat taken from a snaken vessel was sown. This produced wheat free from snout, and from that time forth the practice of soaking seed wheat in ocean brine, or water made artificially salt, became general. Land that contains salt is not liable to produce snouty seed. Applying lime and salt directly to the soil seems to operate to prevent rust, but it is better to treat the grain than the soil.

How to Test the Vitality of SEEDS.—I cut two seeds with a sharp razor or shovl; lay one sod down in a convenient sunny place, with the grass side down. Then I sowed a few seeds on it, and covered with soil and grass part up, and in a few hours what is good of the seed will begin to sprout. By just lifting the top soil you can watch it progress without disturbing the seed on the seed bed. If the land is very dry, I pour a pailful of water on the spot from which I am going to take the seeds.

ORCHARD GRASS.
The value of this grass seems to be very little more than an establishment. Scarcely an agricultural paper can be picked up but some writer is giving his testimony of its merits. In the south it seems to be highly successful. We commend a trial of it to our readers.

Meadows and Pastures.
May be renovated, if mown and trenched; by passing a harrow over them in diverse directions, and by sowing 100 pounds of bones and five bushels of ashes to the acre upon them. A fine and well-rotted compost is also good. The use of a heavy roller is likewise to be recommended; and this is on grass fields as well, an implement too much neglected.

THE VEGETABLE GARDEN.
ASPARAGUS.—Seed of this may be sown, as soon as the ground is dry enough to work, in a four foot square. Plants from seed sown last spring may be set out. Put in good soil, in rows three to four feet apart, and plant one foot in rows and with their crowns about six inches below the surface. Give a good dressing of manure to old beds.

BEETS.—Sow early in drills twelve or fifteen inches apart. Till out so they will stand six or seven inches in the drills. Carrots and parsnips the same.

CABBAGES and CAULIFLOWERS wintered over or from hot beds may be set out as soon as the soil can be worked. Both need to be planted in rich soil and well watered.

CELERY.—Seed should be sown as early as possible. Keep clear of weeds. Lettuce, from the beds or cold frames, may be planted out, and seed sown for succession.

ONIONS.—Seed may be sown and sets planted as early as practicable to

MEDICAL.

KEARNEY'S FLUID EXTRACT BUCHU!
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