The Farm and Dairy.

Farm Work for February.

But little out doors work can be accomplished on the farm during this month. The farmer can continue to prepare his summer fuel, if he has not already done so, and mature his plans for the coming season.

The spring campaign will soon be open, and the farmer who has his route of march mapped out most clearly, who is ready to fall into line of battle at the first sound of the bugle; and, having decided upon the course to be pursued, the land to be cultivated, and the crops to be grown, proposes to fight it out on that line if it takes all summer, is the one who will prove the most successful. The month presents to the [illegible] opportunity for physical [illegible], and gives him a chance to think and plan for the future; and he should improve this opportunity to become a liberal thinker and also reasoner. For our language, manners, appearance, and general conduct of life are moulded, colored and tempered by, of our habits of thinking. Be certain as a drop of ink will tinge a glass of pure water, just so certain it is that our life will take the hue of our thoughts. An [illegible] is absorbed that we live in two worlds, at the same time. One is the world of rectitude, usefulness and light; the other is a world of impurities, weakness, and, perhaps gross error, and both come from the habits of thinking.

Looking at this light, this habit thought becomes a matter demanding a searching inquiry, by all; and when it is made we fear there are few [illegible] to the conclusion that [illegible] is too often run at random upon unprofitable subjects, instead of being fixed in their full power upon the business by which they are seeking a subsistence, or upon something which will tend to increase their happiness and store of learning. No one acquires knowledge, and but few obtain money, reputation, or become useful to the world, by chance.

The farmer must succeed on his vocation by experiment, observation, investigation and research—not by chance. [illegible] thought, and close observation of others, he arrives at certain conclusions which, carried out, insure him the finest stock or most abundant harvest.

Look on that picture then on this.—Another farmer has no time to read; his lives a period dreamy existence, and does the thing to-day which he ought to have done yesterday; he seldom experiments, draws comparisons or analyzes. If his cows are unprofitable, or his crops fail, he straightway charges nature with the fault. This class of farmers have enough to do without thinking. To such a one the world seems one of weakness, imperfection and barrenness, instead of energy, thrift and progress, and so he plods through life groping in darkness, but little better than the transatlantic serfs.

Stock should receive the most careful attention this month, both as regards feeding cleanliness and warmth.

If you intend to graft in the spring—say April [illegible] now is the time to cut your [illegible] store them in a damp, cool place. Scions, that they are required for use.

Your orchards should be examined this month, and especially at the bases, to see that the mice are not destroying the trees. Work of this character is about all that can be performed this month, and leaves much time for thought, study and amusement. Much good would result in several families meeting at a neighbor's once a week during this month, and interchanging views and opinions regarding farm management, relation of crops, &c.

Mr. Editor: Ephraim must have had this in mind when he wrote:

> And time to friendship exercise they incline:
> The farmer tells the time to plough and sow;
> While [illegible] speak of pastures, sheep and kine,
> Or many a lesson, or winter's drifting snow:
> The matters grave discourse of loom and flail,
> Agent, the hasty youth, as well they might,
> Read, chorusing, to the song of Mercy's Mary,
>
> And with delight the rapid hours passed by,
> Till sunset's golden blight.
> [Continued on Page 2.

Application of Manure.

—Lawes, of England, has a plot of experimental meadow to which 14 tons of stable manure have been applied since 1843. Plants grown on this surface have absorbed all the rain water, so that little or none has been discharged by under drains. Similar drains under a part of the meadow not manured have ran freely several times a year. An acre of long manured land holds, within 36 inches of the surface, 1920 tons of water, while on the same acre and depth of [illegible] manured holds only [illegible].

The Dairy in the West.

—In one township of Somerset, DeKalb County, Ill., we find there are three cheese factories whose united products for the year ending July 15th, was 350,000 lbs. [illegible] factories made 240,000 lbs. last year, the cheese being most excellent in quality. There are in all, ten co-operative factories in the county, one producing butter as well as cheese, and one butter only. Besides, there are in the county, several private dairies using, respectively, the milk of from fifty to one hundred cows.—Western Rural.

Meeting.

A meeting of the N. Y. State sheep breeders' Association will be held at Canandaigua, Feb. 14th, at 12 o'clock M., to organize for holding a spring fair, and transacting other business.

Robert Bonner's Horses.

A Lodge has been organized in Boston among the merchants called the "Speculators of Husbandry."

A Lancaster county sold a three year old grade Short Horn steer which weighed 2,400 lbs after being driven 18 miles to market.

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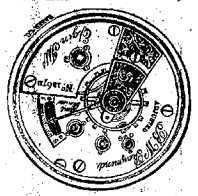

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J. C. POTTER, Optician.
Alfred, N. Y. 3ur290

THE BEST EVIDENCE.

The following letter from Rev. E. S. BEST, Pastor M. E. Church, Natick, Mass., will be read with interest by many physicians. Also the sensible ring from the same disease as afflicted the son of the Rev. E. S. Best. No person can doubt of the testimony, and there is no doubt about the curative powers of VEGETINE.

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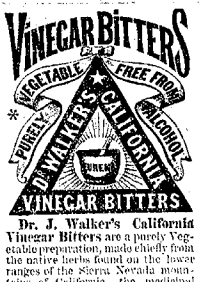

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