

MINERS' & FARMERS' JOURNAL.

PRINTED AND PUBLISHED EVERY THURSDAY, BY NOBLE & HOLTUN, CHARLOTTE, MICKLEBURG COUNTY, NORTH-CAROLINA.

I WILL TEACH YOU TO PIERCE THE BOWELS OF THE EARTH AND BRING OUT FROM THE CAVERNS OF THE MOUNTAINS, METALS WHICH WILL GIVE STRENGTH TO OUR HANDS AND SUBJECT ALL NATURE TO OUR USE AND PLEASURE.—DR. JOHNSON.

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TERMS.

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All communications to the Editors must come free of postage, or they may not be attended to.

AGRICULTURAL.

(From the New England Farmer.)

Extracts from the Reports of the Essex Agricultural Society in 1830.

ERASTUS WARE'S STATEMENT.

To the Committee of the Essex Agricultural Society on Farms.

GENTLEMEN.—The farm known by the name of the Pickman farm, of which the subscriber is at present, and has been tenant for nearly eleven years, is situated in the southeasterly part of Salem, and contains four hundred and twenty-eight acres of pasturage, tillage and mowing. The pasturage includes about three hundred acres much broken, of every description, from wet pond holes to barren rocks. No attempts have been made to improve this pasture other than clearing the bushes and draining some low parts, as there is no prospect of a remuneration for such labor. The amount of land under tillage, the present year, has been about twenty-one acres, and the amount of upland or English mowing, is sixty-three acres. Of the tillage and mowing lands, a considerable part consists of thin gravelly soil, of better than a medium quality, and favorable to most grain crops; and another part consists of a clayey soil, resting on a clay pan, retentive of moisture and yielding good crops of grass and potatoes under liberal manuring and cultivation. The farm is well watered. Much of the mowing and tillage, in the spring of the year, would naturally be overflowed; so that much labor has been necessary to prepare and lay it down to grass in beds, that the water may be carried off in drains.

Some of the most productive grass land on the place has been in this way reclaimed from an unprofitable marsh or swamp, and made to yield very large crops of English grass. We have no land which is irrigated by any artificial process. There is of wet meadow land not more than five acres, which is never filled, but drained and yields good stock hay. We have of salt marsh thirty-nine acres, generally yielding good crops of black grass. This is ditched, from which well known advantages arise; but no other labor is expended, other than taking the crop.

Of the cultivated land the present year,—Five and a half acres were sown with barley.

About seven acres were sown with Indian corn.

Four and three-fourths acres with potatoes.

One acre with mangel wurzel, One-third of an acre with onions, And one-half of an acre with crook-necked winter squashes.

Small parcels were cultivated with garden vegetables for the family, and supply for the retail market, the produce of which I cannot conveniently account for.

Many of the mangel wurzel plants were destroyed by worms, and their places supplied by ruta bage.

The manure used on the place, has been principally made by the stock kept on it.—I have carted into my barn-yard bog mud, damaged hay, and obtained from the neighboring beaches, sea wrock and eel-grass, which I put into my hog styes,—kelp, rock weed, &c. which I put directly on the grass land. For small grain crops no manure is applied by me, on the year of their being sown, unless the land is very wet and cold.

My Barley was raised on ground, on which the preceding year I had a very good crop of Chenango potatoes, which I manured with coarse manure spread and ploughed under the sward. My Indian corn this year, contrary to my usual practice, was raised on land which was planted the preceding year with Indian corn—spreading and ploughing under coarse manure both years. But the sward being so completely bound with twitch-grass I could not subdue it in one year. I have found a crop which shades the ground most perfectly is the most effectual in destroying the twitch-grass—and this was an inducement to plant corn a second time, in drill rows, and I have thereby effected my object in destroying that pernicious root. My corn was raised on a gravelly soil, as before described. In the former part of the season it appeared small, but it afterwards grew with great promise until a severe gale in August blew

it down, so that it was necessary to cut it up green, and shock it in the field till it was dry. The crop was much injured, but I was satisfied that cutting it up green was my best way.

My potatoes, except a few raised on the borders of some of the fields, were raised on ground newly broken up, and the manure, at the rate of eight or nine cords per acre, taken from the barn-yard, composed of litter and the deposits of the cattle, was spread and ploughed under the sod. The soil, on which the potatoes grew, was moist and clayey. The potatoes were ploughed, and hoed twice, and harrowed once between the rows,—the seed of the Chenango kind, of excellent quality.

The corn was hoed three times, but not hilled as is customary; and upon a comparison of that not hilled, with a small piece, which was in some degree hilled, after a severe gale, I am satisfied that no advantage is gained by hilling as was formerly practised. My opinion is that there is no benefit derived by hilling corn,—and corn raised on a flat surface, when the weeds are destroyed and the ground kept loose, is by no means so likely to suffer by the drought, or to have its roots impeded in the search after their proper nutriment, as where the ground is drawn up round the stalk in a high and steep hill.

The manure applied to my other crops was of the best kind I could procure, and applied as nearly as can be ascertained at the rate of about ten cords to the acre; for crops of potatoes and Indian corn, my experience leads me to apply my manure spread green and fresh, believing that by so doing its strength is best preserved and much labor saved.

For smaller crops, and tap rooted plants, I prefer manure that is fine and well rotted. The amount of crops raised this season on the farm is as follows:—

| | |
|-------------------------|---------------|
| Of Potatoes, | 1230 bushels. |
| Mangel Wurzel, | 600 |
| Ruta Bage, | 50 |
| English flat turnips, | 850 |
| Onions, | 150 |
| Indian Corn, | 280 |
| Barley, | 137 |
| Squashes, | 3 tons. |
| Cabbage, | 3 |
| Cider, | 130 barrels. |
| Apples of best quality, | 1200 bushels. |
| English hay, | 115 tons. |
| Second crop, | 8 |
| Fresh Meadow, | 6 |
| Salt Hay, | 40 |

Of garden vegetables the family have had an abundant supply, and we have had an assortment and supply for retail in the market, since the first of August, with some fruit which has been taken while growing and ripening, so that I cannot give an accurate account of the amount.

The severe gale in August very much injured the crops of corn; shook from the trees, nine hundred bushels of unripe apples, which were partly manufactured to very little advantage into cider, and lessened much the expected profits of the orchard.

Of the above crops, the grain, vegetables and fruit are of nearly correct measurement; the amount of hay is given by as accurate an estimate, in each load, as could be made by an experienced and disinterested individual.

The hay on the farm is generally a mixture of herds-grass and red-top, with some clover. The amount of seed used in laying down land to grass is a peck and a half of herds-grass and three pecks of red-top to an acre. There is usually enough of clover seed in the manure, and it cannot be sowed to advantage in rich moist land.—

When I sow grass-seed in the spring I sow barley with the grass-seed. I have been very successful in laying down land to grass in the fall, after taking a crop of potatoes, in which case nothing but grass seed is sown. The number of bearing trees on the farm is as follows:—of apple trees (almost all engrafted and many with very choice fruit) mostly young, 763—pear trees, 63—cherry trees cultivated, 50. In addition, I have a nursery containing 3000 trees—most of which have been engrafted or budded. Of the apple trees, some of them are in orchards, of which the ground about their roots are cultivated, and occasionally manured, when the condition of the tree requires it; others are planted by stone walls; and all of them are annually pruned. In the choice of kinds of apples, regard should be had to the use they are wanted for. If for the market or your own table, I would recommend the Ribstone Pippin, Spitzenburg, Spice Pearmain, Nonpareil. For elegant and delightful early winter apples, in eating in October and November, the Pickman Pippin (a name that we have adopted, not being able to trace its origin beyond this farm) will compare well with any other apple within my knowledge. The trees are of a thrifty growth, and handsome form. We consider this one of our most profitable apples for cultivation. The Mammoth Pippin is valuable for its superior size only.

There are two barns on the place, one 100 feet in length and 35 feet in breadth, the other recently built, 114 feet in length and 42 in width. In the latter the milch cows are commonly kept. It has a cellar under the whole, the main part of which is

for manure and receives all the deposits of the cattle. A portion of this cellar is enclosed for the storing of fruit and vegetables. The barn has a floor through the whole length. The cattle are principally placed on one side, and the hay comes to the floor on the other. The centre over the floor from scaffold height is at last filled to the ridge. The barns are not large enough for storing all the hay; and considerable quantities are necessarily kept in stacks out of doors.

The live stock kept on the place are as follows:—oxen, 6—cows, 50—heifers, 5—bull, 1—horses, 3—fatting swine, 9. The weight of pork fatted is not yet ascertained, as the hogs have not been killed—but the average weight of my swine, last year, was about 300 lbs. each—and this year, the result will probably be about the same.

The chief object of the farm is the supplying of milk for the market in Salem, where it is sent twice a day in summer; once in winter—a distance of about two miles.—The number of gallons sent to market, during the year ending the first of the present month, is 13,870—butter made in the same time, 550 lbs.—cheese (called four meal cheese) 600 lbs.—of calves, in the same time, have been received for those fattened and sold, 154 dollars; the others have been killed as soon as the milk of the cow was fit for use; their skins sold for 50 cents each, and the carcass boiled and given to the hogs. The cows are all of native breed, and are generally bought when young from the country; as stock of this description cannot in my situation be raised to advantage.

The amount paid for labor the past year has been eight hundred forty-three dollars, thirty-seven cents. From which is to be deducted for extra labor in building stone wall, and for men and team employed off the farm for the town, &c. two hundred and sixty dollars—leaving the net amount of cost of labor upon the farm, five hundred eighty-three dollars thirty-seven cents. My own labor and the labor hired in the house, is not included in the above estimate.

The laborers on the farm are freely supplied with family beer, molasses and water, milk and water. Cider is not preferred in warm weather, except with food. No ardent spirit is used on the farm except for medical purposes, and for that probably not to exceed one gallon in a year.

I have endeavored to give as correct and full a statement as in my power. I have never been used to agriculture from my youth; but have had no other advantages than those derived from actual experience. So far as my opinion on the subject may be deemed of any importance, it is in favor of an alteration of crops on the same land, and an occasional change of every kind of seed.

All of which is respectfully submitted.

ERASTUS WARE.

Salem, Mass. Dec. 8, 1830.

From the Hathersfield Spectator.

SKETCHES OF A TRAVELLER.

Mr. Editor:—Having recently made an excursion through the "gold region" in the upper part of Georgia, I am induced to make a few remarks on the very flattering prospect of mineral wealth in that part of the country. The country generally presents a broken unthrifty and uninviting appearance. The land, except that lying on the small rivulets, is very poor and of course infertile. Owing to the excessive severity of the winter, the mining operations were in a good degree suspended. Still I was shown a number of mines which were spoken of as being immensely rich. As an evidence of the richness of one of the mines I visited, I will state a fact which transpired under my immediate observation. A gentleman with whom I was in company, purchased from one of the hands, a small piece of rock weighing about 2 ounces, for which he gave one dollar. It was immediately pulverized, when by means of quick-silver there was collected 5 dwts. and 17 grs. of pure gold, which afterwards sold in Augusta for nearly five dollars. Since this extraordinary product, another piece of rock has been found on the same lot, and sold at auction for \$24, which on being pulverized produced 47 dollars worth of gold. This mine, which bids fair to surpass in richness any that has been hitherto discovered, is called *New Potomac*, lies in Hall County, and is owned by A. McLaughlin and company. The proprietors were operating with a few hands, and as far as they had progressed, received every assurance of realizing their highest expectation. Nothing is required but the aid of skill and capital to render the mining business a source of wealth and advantage to the community. From the mines, I directed my course towards Augusta, passing through the older settled parts of the country, which exhibited an appearance of fertility and comfort, which speaks much in behalf of the industry and moral character of the inhabitants. Athens, where is situated the university of the state, is a neat and well arranged little country town. The walls of the college buildings presented a melancholy and dilapidated appearance in consequence of the destructive ravages of fire. The

praiseworthy munificence of the Legislature will probably enable the state to repair those buildings in a short time.

I was much pleased with the extreme beauty of the city of Augusta. The hand of taste, enterprise, and convenience has been employed in its primary arrangement, and subsequent rapid improvement. It is a place of considerable commercial importance, and has private dwellings—equal in magnificence to any that are to be found in much larger cities. It is inferior in point of population to Savannah or Charleston, though it is probably superior in some other respect. I witnessed a very fine display of female beauty, at a large party given by the patriotic young gentlemen of the city, in honour of the birth day of Washington. The ladies appeared in embellishments of a superior richness and taste which added to "nature finer polish," gave them that exceedingly bewitching and fascinating appearance, which "makes one feel all over so." After a short stay in Augusta, I set out in the stage for Charleston, a situation which afforded me little opportunity to make observations on the intervening country. I could but notice however, that it was in a high state of improvement, and that agriculture was pursued more as a science, than as a simple employment. But I have digressed from my object in addressing you this note, yet if the digression should prove agreeable to you, I may at a leisure time, give some further account of my peregrinations. F. Asheville, N. C., April 1, 1830.

Thundering Spring.—In a deep glen in the northwest corner of Upson county, is a curious fountain, popularly known as the *Thundering Spring*. It is situated in the middle of a cany branch, at the bottom of a high steep hill. The basin of the spring is about ten feet over, perfectly round, with bright shining zones around it, resembling old and silver belts, caused by the deposition of fine yellow sand and singlass.—Though the sand boils up below with considerable vehemence, the surface of the water is perfectly smooth and transparent, and runs off so gently that its current is scarcely perceptible, and many suppose that the water sinks as fast as it rises! The transparency of the water extends six inches. Below that depth, it appears like boiling sand, or a soap kettle in a state of ebullition. "The water is nearly blood warm, and has a slight empyreumatic taste and smell." The ebullition is so strong that it is said to be impossible for a person to sink in this spring. Bathing here is said to be a certain cure for rheumatism and many cutaneous affections. The boiling is irregular, sometimes being scarcely perceptible, at other times strong and violent. The basin is said to be very deep, and many ignorant people suppose it has no bottom. The most remarkable feature, however, about this singular spring, is a low rumbling noise, heard at short intervals, resembling distant thunder, or the low mutterings of the tempest.

This spring was held in a good deal of veneration, we are told, by the Indians, who imagined it the laboratory of thunder, and they had an idea, that by agitating the water, they could cause it to thunder and rain. Nearly on the top of the hill over the fountain, is a deep sink or pit, which they say was the former situation of the Spring, and that the Thunder Spirit removed it down to the valley to hide it from the whites!

Sacon (Ga.) Telegraph.

Titles of the King of Spain.—The following letter was addressed by Ferdinand of Spain to the Emperor of Brazil, to announce the death of his daughter, the Queen of Spain. It was found on board a Spanish vessel taken by a Caracas privateer:—

"Most high and most puissant prince, our well beloved brother and cousin, brother-in-law, and father-in-law! I, Don Ferdinand, by the Grace of God, King of Castile and Leon, of Arragon, of the two Sicilies, of Jerusalem, of Navarre, of Granada, of Toledo, of Valencia, of Galicia, Majorca, Minorca, Seville, Cordova, Murcia, the Algebras, Gibraltar, the Canary Islands, of the East and West Indies, of the Islands thereof, of the Terra Firma, of the Atlantic; Arch-duke of Austria, Duke of Burgundy, of Brabant, and Milan; Count of Hapsburgh, of Flanders, of the Tyrol, and of Barcelona; Lord of Biscay and Molina, &c. &c.; find myself under the melancholy necessity of announcing to your Majesty the death of the Queen, my dear and well-beloved spouse, who departed this life on the 26th of December, at half past nine in the evening—a death which was soon followed by that of the infant of which she was pregnant. This event, so injurious to the happiness of Spain, overwhelms me with grief, and will be to you a bitter vexation. Most high and puissant prince! my dear and well beloved cousin, brother-in-law, father-in-law, may our Lord and Saviour take you into his holy keeping. From your Majesty's loving brother, cousin, brother-in-law, and son-in-law, Ferdinand, Given at Madrid, January 9th, 1818."

Virginia.—The House of Delegates of Virginia have passed a bill for incorporating a company to establish a rail road from New River to Lynchburg, running through the counties of Campbell, Bedford, Botetourt and Montgomery, a distance of 100 miles. The capital specified in the bill is \$600,000, to be raised by private subscriptions; at least one hundred thousand of which is expected to be promptly subscribed by the citizens of Lynchburg. By striking the New River, the road is intended to open a communication between Virginia and the State of Tennessee; and the brilliant prospects which are thus opened to the anticipations of the enterprising citizens of the Old Dominion, are vividly portrayed by the Richmond Compiler. Among other remarks, that paper says, "The country in general [over which the road will pass] is remarkably level; and the facilities which it presents to the location of the rail road are so great, that the use of steam engines can readily overcome every difficulty, and produce the most convenient transportation for the produce of the West. We have very recently seen a load of cotton brought to Richmond from Tennessee by way of Pattonsburg, and down the James River. This experiment is the pioneer for others—made too under every disadvantage of bad roads and a circuitous route. What will not the extent of the communication be, when a rail road of only 100 miles shall be laid down, through a level country, from the New River to Lynchburg? Will not the cotton and the tobacco of Tennessee be poured into the lap of Lynchburg and Richmond?—and will not an impulse be given to the commerce of those cities, which will be felt to an increased extent and through distant ages."—*Ral. Star.*

When commenting, in the House of Representatives, upon the proposition of Gales & Seaton, to reprint the public documents, Mr. Drayton, of S. C. held this language:—

"Gentlemen have urged, that we ought not to pass this bill, because the effect would be to confer a lucrative employment upon those who are hostile to the administration. The press is free: The individuals alluded to, are as well entitled to express their sentiments as I am mine. Their opinion may be correct, and mine wrong; or the reverse may be the case. However this may be, I would never enquire to what party any one was attached, who proposed to enter into a contract for printing our proceedings. My sole enquiry would be, whether he could execute it with fidelity, and for a just compensation. Satisfied on that point, I ought not to be tolerated in a free and enlightened body, to reject his application, because his political opinions were at variance with those of the majority. If our votes are to be influenced by such a motive, to talk of the liberty of the press would be a delusion and a mockery."

Partizans.—It may be thought by some, that the situation of a thorough going partizan, of the small order, or, to vary the figure, one who follows his leaders a great way off, is a very convenient one; that he has nothing to do but praise his idols, and abuse their opponents; that he need be at no trouble to think for himself, or determine what is true—what is false—what is useful—or what is detrimental; but merely to "track full and fair," in the steps of those who go before him. Such may be his situation for a time; but, let it not be forgotten, that this very circumstance may render his situation the more critical and alarming, when he is thrown, by any unforeseen occurrence, upon his own resources. When his leaders fall out, as is sometimes the case, he must at least determine which of them he will follow; and this may sometimes be no easy matter, to one not in the habit of deciding for himself, but accustomed to being guided by leading strings. Besides, great men are not very careful of the interests of their little hangers on. When they come to a critical point in their course, they bolt, or turn a political UMSERSSET, without hesitation, wholly regardless of the interests of those who follow in their train. On such occasions, they seem to act upon the principle of the vulgar adage—"the d— take the hindmost." To be provided before hand, against emergencies of this kind, it might be good policy for all to cultivate their powers of reflection a little, and venture sometimes to think for themselves.

Spirit of the Age.

"Mortified Pride."—This is the title of a humorous lithographic print, just published by Johnstone. It is calculated to immortalize the gentlemen who voted for Mr. Biglow's motion to alter the bill relative to marriages, on a recent occasion, in the House of Representatives. It represents the interior of the shop of a boot-cleaner—the master of the shop in a violent passion, tearing up a city newspaper, apparently the Gazette; a female who has just entered with a whitewash brush, exclaims, "Why, Sanbo honey! what's de matter wid you?" Sanbo answers, "Enough's de matter—I read in dis paper dat dey make law for 'low de white trash' for marry into de first colored circles." Sanbo's journeyman, who is up to his lips in Day and Martin's best, remarks—"Well dese here whites is getting too saasy for any ting in dis world—dat's sartin."—*Boston Gazette.*