

MINERS' & FARMERS' JOURNAL.

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AGRICULTURAL.

STIRRING THE EARTH, A RELIEF AGAINST DROUGHT; by J. L.

[From the Massachusetts Agricultural Repository.]
This is a trite saying, and one, which we are aware has been long since settled by intelligent cultivators in all countries. It is very familiar to gardeners, and the cause of the very superior productions of gardens over field culture may be attributed to the more frequent application of the hoe and spade. Yet it is true, that a very great number of farmers deny the proposition and disapprove the practice. They think it dangerous to plough and hoe, in the time of extreme drought and heat, while our own experience of twenty years has convinced us, that it is much superior as a remedy, against drought, than watering in the limited manner, in which that must always be applied. There has never been a season in our memory in which there was greater necessity for the application of all remedies against drought than at present. The drought was not only of longer duration but it took place, when plants were the least able to resist it, not having their roots in quest of nourishment far, wide, and deep. The early foliage, also, is more liable to wither under a scorching sun or drying wind. In this extraordinary season, I had a small patch of early potatoes planted in a warm and sandy soil, purposely to procure an early crop: the soil was at least three quarters pure sand, mixed with some food for plants among the sand. The severe drought threatened a total loss of the crop; the potato stalks were feeble, drawn up, scarcely larger than goosequills, and I expected every day to see them wither; all hopes of a crop were abandoned. I thought, however, the fair subjects of a desperate experiment. On one of the hottest and driest days, I gave them a thorough ploughing, passing the plough four times through each row; first ploughing two furrows from the hills, as near the roots as possible, without throwing out the seed potatoes, and then returning the team, or earth, instantly back by two other furrows. No rain intervened for ten days. In three days after the potatoes changed their color, they started afresh and they had received the benefit of ample showers, while not a drop of rain had fallen. The weeds, which were abundant, settled on the new turned earth, while before the ploughing, no moisture had been apparent.

The last fact though it cannot have escaped the notice of the most careless cultivator, has not been as yet explained. We can easily see, that a soil, rendered porous, would more readily and easily convey its moisture to the roots. It becomes like a sponge, and is readily permeable or rather readily permits the moisture to pass between the particles; but it is not yet understood why it attracts the moisture. The fact, however, which is what most concerns us is settled. Perhaps some of the experiments of our distinguished countrymen, Dr. Wells, physician of London, who rendered himself distinguished by his remarks on dew, may lead to explain these facts, though it is not yet purpose to examine the theory.

Every man who feels an interest in the matter, can satisfy himself, at once, by stirring a small piece of earth in time of severe drought, and if he does not find it in the morning more filled with moisture than the undisturbed ground in its vicinity, let him become a disbeliever.

But there is another mode, and it is one which I have never seen suggested, by which I apprehend the stirring of the surface, and making it light and porous, is beneficial in great droughts. It is this: light porous bodies are bad conductors of heat; hence because they have more air between their interstices. The facts are familiar to us. Metallic bodies acquire an intense heat, under the rays of the sun, so do in proportion to their density. The earth, when very compact will become extremely hot, but garden loam which is very light, remains cool at noon-day, two inches below the surface. I believe therefore that moving the surface, and keeping it in a light and porous state, enables it to resist the heat of the sun's rays, that the air between the particles of earth communicates its heat slowly to the particles themselves, when in close contact.

My theory, I believe, is an enemy of the theory, I always distrust them, I look on them as false; and having observed that a soil would preserve my strawberries from frost, which can only arise from its level surface, on the surface, I have been led to the undoubted fact, that the soil in a pulverized state resists drought, in the same cause, to wit, the slow communication of the solar rays are communicated to the roots. But be the theory true or not, I am persuaded that every farmer will find that the free use of his hoe and line, in times of severe drought, will be more valuable to him, than as much labor would purchase. I have been convinced from my experience as a cultivator, that the great secret in culti-

vation consists in making the soil porous. In raising exotic plants, we know it to be true, and our flower pots are always supplied with soil, the most porous which we can obtain. The farmer may borrow light from an occupation which he looks upon with disdain, but which elucidates and explains the secrets of vegetation. J. L.

SEEDS, TREES, PLANTS, DOMESTIC ANIMALS, IMPLEMENTS, BOOKS, &c. FOR SALE AT THE AMERICAN FARMER ESTABLISHMENT, No. 16, S. Calvert-street, Baltimore, Md.

The subscriber presents his respects to farmers, gardeners, and dealers in seeds throughout the United States, particularly his customers, and informs them that he has received from Europe, from his own Seed Garden, and from various parts of this country, his annual supply of FINEST AND GARDEN SEEDS; and that he is prepared to execute orders, wholesale and retail, with promptness and accuracy, at as low prices, and on as favorable terms as can be afforded, by any dealer in the United States, for first rate articles.

FRUIT and ornamental trees and plants, grapes, vines, strawberry, gooseberry, raspberry, currant, and strawberry plants, bullous and other flower roots, will at the proper seasons, be procured to order, from the best sources, including all the principal nurseries and gardens in this country for most of which the subscriber is agent; also, FLOUGHS, harrows, cultivators, saw cutters, wheat fans, corn shellers, threshing machines, and all other kinds of agricultural and horticultural implements, will be procured from the best manufacturers in Baltimore, at the manufacturers' prices.

DOMESTIC ANIMALS, particularly cattle of the improved Durham, Short-horn, the Devon, and the Holstein breeds; Sheep of the Bakewell, South-down, and various fine wooled breeds; Swine of several valuable kinds, especially of the Berks breed; Dogs of several varieties, for the farmer and sportsman; various kinds of Poultry, such as white turkeys, Bresse and Westphalia Geese, game and other fowls, and several other species of animals, all of choice breeds, (and no others,) ready for sale at the experimental and breeding farm of this establishment, or can be procured from the best sources to order.

BOOKS, agricultural, horticultural, and botanical, in much greater variety than at the book-stores; some of them rare and particularly valuable, and cheaply offered for sale.

In short, all articles wanted by farmers and gardeners, in the prosecution of their business, are intended either to be kept on hand, or procured when ordered for a small commission.

And though last in order here, yet first in importance to every farmer, the subscriber offers to them THE SEEDS OF KNOWLEDGE in their various forms, "fresh and genuine," having been carefully gathered from the field of experience, and the garden of science, the whole done up in paper covers and labels, THE FARMER AND GARDENER, AND LIVESTOCK BREEDER AND MANAGER; and dispensed from the printing press of this establishment every Friday in the form of a weekly Agricultural Paper, at the year, payable in advance.

N. B. This periodical is essentially similar to the L. A. FARMER, the publication of which has been for some time past suspended. Address

L. IRVING HITCHCOCK, American Farmer Establishment.

Sub.—An "Extra" number of the Farmer containing a prospectus of the Establishment, and a catalogue of Seeds, and other articles for sale, will be sent gratis to any person who shall furnish his address, post paid, for that purpose.

PRINTING OFFICE

For Sale.

THE subscriber having discontinued the publication of the *Vegetable & Cattle Journal*, offers the whole printing establishment for sale, on reasonable terms.

It consists of a first rate Super Royal Ramage Screw Press; Type, from English Lines, Pica to Brevier sizes; a great variety of Galleys, Lines, Flowers, Gallies, Cases, Chases, in short, all that is necessary for the immediate establishment of a Printing Office.

Any gentleman, desiring to embark in the Printing Business, can get a good bargain by applying to

HUGH WILCOX, Salisbury, May 31, 1834.

SELLING OFF

AT COST!

BEING anxious to close his business in this place, the Subscriber would respectfully inform the Citizens of Charlotte and vicinity, that they will offer their whole Stock of Boots and Shoes at Cost until the 10th of July next, at a high time the business must be closed. Persons desiring to purchase would do well to call at their Store, one door below Maj. McComb and opposite Boyd's Hotel.

J. BISHOP & Co. 125

June 10th, 1834.

New State Bank.

BOOKS of subscription for Stock in the NEW STATE BANK, not yet taken, will be next opened in Charlotte, on the 15th of June next. Those intending to take stock would do well to have their names entered early as it is believed all the stock will be taken very soon after opening the books.

JOS. McCONAUGHEY,) Chairman.
JOSHUA D. BOYD,)
JOHN IRWIN,)

May 27, 1834. 210

STOLEN

FROM the stable of the subscriber, on the night of the 12th inst., lying in Cabarrus county, on the stage road to Salisbury near Coddle Creek, a small likely Sorrel horse, about 14 hands high, six or seven years old, this spring and slightly marked with the collar on both shoulders. A reward of five dollars will be given to any one taking up said horse and apprehending the thief, or any information, so that I may get the horse, directed to Concord, N. C.

JONATHAN B. YOUNG. 253

June 13, 1834.

Blanks of all kinds for sale at this Office.

An interesting Incident.—Among the guests at the dinner, at Faneuil Hall, Boston, of the Ancient and Honorable Company of Artillery, on Monday last, were the three Polish officers, whose arrival we mentioned a few days since. A toast on the subject of Poland, followed by some very appropriate remarks, was given by ALEXANDER H. EVERETT, and replied to in a feeling manner by MURKINS, the younger of the party. It was interesting at the close of the dinner, to see the young gentlemen cordially taken by the hand by two revolutionary veterans, Major Russell and General Matton, who had both served under Kosciuszko and de Kalb. "I knew your brave countrymen well," said the venerable General Matton, "and I loved them very much. If you visit the interior, come and see me, and you shall have a share of what I have."—*Boston Journal*.

At the Dinner at Faneuil Hall, Boston, on Monday last, the Deputation from the Polish Exiles at New York, being present, the following toast was offered by Mr. A. H. Everett, preceded by a short speech: The Exiles from Poland.—The gallant countrymen of Kosciuszko and Pulaski; they are heartily welcome to our country.

On the toast being drunk, one of the Poles rose, and in the name of his companions expressed himself as follows:

Americans: I thank you in the name of my countrymen for this proof of your interest in them. It is not the first one we have had. During the late struggle of our country for liberty, we heard the voice of sympathy which you sent across the Atlantic; we remember the standards which you forwarded, and although they did not reach us in time to lead us against the enemy, they were an endearing proof of your sympathy; we remember, too, the suffering of some of your countrymen for their devotion to our cause. If any thing can console us in exile from our beloved Poland, it is, that we can at least sigh freely in the home of freedom. If it please Heaven to separate us forever from our native land, we can at least rejoice, that America is to become the home of our adoption. Allow me to propose this toast:

A Long continuance to the free institutions of the United States—a preserved in their purity, they must secure the prosperity of the people.

Extraordinary Occurrence.—The fertile genius of the author of Tom Cingle's Log could hardly suggest a more singular combination of circumstances than are contained in the narrative of a West India paper, now before us, of the 14th of May. The Editor asserts that the papers alluded to in the narrative are in his possession, and that he has the authority of the officer himself (Lieutenant Bagot) for their genuineness; they have been taken from the bowels of the "monarch of the deep."

"His Majesty's schooner Pickle, Lieutenant Bagot, during her last cruise off the Isle of Pines, for the purpose of capturing vessels engaged in the Slave Trade, and whilst lying in the sight of Cape Francis, observed a large schooner under sail inside the Julian Keys. The Pickle immediately weighed anchor, made all sail in chase, and from advantage in sailing, very soon convinced the stranger that any attempt to escape would be absolutely fruitless. The stranger accordingly anchored, thereby giving the Pickle an opportunity of better distinguishing her. She was perceived to carry the Royal Flag of Spain, without a pendant. This, together with her broadside view and the number of men who crowded her decks, exactly corresponded with the description of the vessel, the Commander of the Pickle had previously received of her, and gave hopes of satisfying the stranger with a broadside (the usual courtesy shown by large slavers to small vessels of war.) The Pickle immediately ran under her stern, and prepared to return the usual salutation, and anchored on her quarter within half pistol shot. A boat was then sent to examine the suspicious stranger, when she proved to be the Spanish schooner "Carlotta" carrying two 18 pounders, with a complement of 30 men, from Santa Martha to the Havana.

The vessel having an unusual number of water casks on board, and being also fitted with a slave deck, created much suspicion on the part of the Commander of the Pickle, who was not altogether satisfied with the account the Master of the slaver gave of himself, and sent back to bring him on board immediately, together with his papers, logbook, charts, &c. &c. From these documents nothing could be elicited to warrant the detention of a vessel under Spanish colors, and which was to all appearance a vessel of war.

The more however strong suspicions on the mind of the Commander of the Pickle, that she had very recently landed a large cargo of slaves, and which, subsequent circumstances fully justified.

About two o'clock in the middle of the watch on the same night, a fishing line which had been unattendedly left trailing

overboard, was observed by the quarter master of the watch to be swerving about in all directions, and he with assistance hauled it in, when it was found that to the hook was appended a Shark about four feet long! On opening it, in the morning, a bundle of papers was discovered in the belly rolled and tied up, (now in our office, and which were sent to us by the commander of the Pickle through our reporter) these on examination were found to be the papers of the "Carlotta," amongst which are the private signals; they also prove that the Carlotta was a slaver, and had on board a cargo of 250 slaves, which cargo had been landed about four hours, before she was discovered by the Pickle.

Thus were the hopes of success, singularly disappointed, and the truth as singularly discovered.

Romance in Real Life.—There has lately returned to Paris, a Lieutenant of the French army, who was taken Prisoner in the disastrous campaign undertaken by Napoleon against Russia. He was sent into Siberia, and during twenty years of his captivity never found a single opportunity of making any communication of his existence to his family, who believed him to be dead.—Consequently, on presenting himself, his father and mother both rejected him as an impostor; for in addition to the changes effected by time and suffering, he had several scars on his face, which were further disguised by a false nose made of metal. A peculiar mark on the left arm, however, being recognised by the mother, fully identified him, and secured him acknowledgment and the re-investment of his property, the possession of which had been delivered over to his relations upon the presumption of his death. His wife, during his absence, had taken to herself another husband, and has pertinaciously refused to return to his arms. The circumstance will it is said afford occupation for the tribunals.

Phil. Gaz.

From the Boston Mercantile Advertiser.

E Pluribus Unum.—A few years since, the Captain of a militia company in a certain town in New Hampshire, who felt all the importance of the high station to which he had been lately elevated, resolved to have a *huss drum* added to the drum and file ordinarily used in his company. He accordingly visited the town of Portsmouth for the purpose of making the necessary arrangements, and with some little difficulty at length succeeded in finding a person who had a huss drum, of which he was willing to dispose, and a bargain was soon struck. But the Captain was somewhat puzzled with the phrase "E Pluribus Unum," which was carried in the back of the American Eagle, and painted on the drum. He demanded an explanation—and was told by the man, that that was the name of the Captain of the Company to which the drum formerly belonged. "Then it must be altered," "Certainly." The drum was accordingly taken to a painter, and the objectionable words *E Pluribus Unum* were erased, and other words substituted in their place. For many years this drum was carried at the head of the Company—the eagle proudly bearing on his back the scroll, to which was attached the name of the brave and well-meaning *E Jonathan Filbury*!

PLATE OF THE PRESIDENTS OF THE UNITED STATES.

We are gratified to learn that the proprietor of the New-York Mirror has determined to postpone the publication of this magnificent engraving until the commencement of the next volume of his excellent work. This has been done in order to give the artists a fair opportunity of presenting the public with a specimen of the fine arts unrivalled in this country. We have seen a proof impression of the Engraving, and do not hesitate to pronounce it the most beautiful and valuable thing of the kind that has fallen under our notice. The design is by Wier, and is one of his happiest conceptions. The picture represents the end of an apartment in the Capitol, adorned with the portraits of Washington, Jefferson, the elder Adams, Madison, Monroe, John Quincy Adams and General Jackson.—In the centre is a splendid mirror, reflecting the Goddess of Liberty, standing on a pedestal: the walls are decorated with banners and other suitable devices.—The American Eagle, &c. The likenesses are strictly correct, and have been procured at great cost and trouble. Really, the Editors of the Mirror deserve the thanks of their countrymen for the zeal they are constantly evincing in the cause of American letters and the fine arts. Every body who has the least particle of national pride should foster and encourage the work, as the cheapest and best periodical amongst us.—N. Y. Ec. Star.

The itch is caused by an insect, white, with eight reddish legs, to the four hind ones of which is appended a bristle. It may be distinguished with a microscope, in the vesicles, in the joints, which accompany the disorder.

A firm of brick makers, in Mount Vernon Ohio, have succeeded in getting a new brick machine into operation, and with complete success. It operates by pressure, and manufactures, as the Mount Vernon Gazette states, the very best quality of bricks out of dry clay. There is a pressure of more than fifty tons upon every brick; it comes from the press as smooth as plates of polished steel can produce. One horse makes twenty such pressures in a minute.

TO THE PUBLIC.

DOCT. J. M. HAPPOLDT

AS established an EYE INFIRMARY and a SURGICAL WARD at his residence, for the accommodation of all persons who may commit themselves to his care. Believing that an Establishment of this kind has long since been called for, from the nature of Surgical Operations, the subsequent attention requisite in order to render them successful and the appeals to mitigate the pangs of suffering humanity; and aware of the impracticability of imparting that necessary aid, (and in most cases daily attention) imperiously demanded by those who are the subjects of surgical diseases or accidental injury, where the patients are not immediately under the eye of the Surgeon, he has been at no little expense in making preparations for the reception of those who may commit their cases to his direction. It is needless to dwell on the importance of an Establishment of this kind to the subjects of Surgery and the advantages which such may derive from it. Suffice it to say, that the daily attention of the practitioner is not only necessary, but of incalculable benefit to the patient as regards his ease and comfort, as well as the final result of the operation or cure under treatment. Daily experience proves the lamentable fact that many suffer for the want of that attention which their situation demands, but which is denied them, by the disadvantageous circumstances under which a country Practitioner labors and which (unavoidably, however disagreeable) prevent him from imparting. This aid, so loudly called for, can be expected only from an institution, where it is the province of a practitioner to give daily attendance. From the consideration that a located Surgical Department would be desirable, Dr. Hapoldt is induced to offer his services to the public and solicits such cases as may require close or daily treatment (wherever practicable), to be brought to his establishment, where every attention will be rendered that will in anywise tend to the comfort or benefit of the patient. The FEES will be reasonable, and much less than for the same services rendered at the dwelling of the patient.

From the advantages of Surgical Information derived from a course of studies at the Medical College of South Carolina and at the University of Pennsylvania, together with the experience of twelve years' practice, and the general success hitherto attendant on his operations, he hopes to merit a liberal patronage.

The counsel and assistance of a professional gentleman, of high and respectable qualifications, will be obtained in cases which may require them, without any additional charge.

Dr. H. may be found at his Establishment, 8 miles below Charlotte, on the Providence road, where he may be consulted. While he proposes to devote much of his time to Surgery, the other branches of his profession shall receive due attention.

Providence Settlement, Mecklenburg City.

N. C. May 14, 1834. 89-31a

N. B. One or two Students, of good attainments and moral character, will be received, who can enjoy the advantages of dissection, with operations on the dead subject and post mortem examination and a well selected Library.

MALLARD CREEK CLASSICAL SCHOOL.

A CLASSICAL SCHOOL has been opened, at Mallard Creek Church, in which the Latin and Greek Languages, with English Grammar and Geography are taught. The subscriber hopes by untiring exertion, and constant attention to his business, to merit a portion of the patronage of Mecklenburg and the surrounding parishes. Aware of the discrepancy that too often exists between the assertions made by teachers in their advertisement and the actual improvement of their pupils, he makes no extraordinary promises—he knows no royal way to learning, a faithful discharge of his duties as a teacher, and patient and vigorous application, on the part of his pupils, are the measures by which he hopes to advance the improvement of those committed to his care.

The Academy, is located near the road leading from Charlotte to Concord, about 12 miles from each. The neighborhood is healthy, moral, and retired. The students, will be exposed to as few temptations to vice or a prodigality of time, as our imperfect human condition will admit of. Care will be taken to discipline the mind, and give a healthy tone of moral sentiment to those who shall attend the school. Boarding can be had in respectable families, at the very reduced rate of \$50, per year.

Price of tuition as follows:
The Greek and Latin per session \$10
English Grammar and Geography 7

The following books, and parts of books will be taught. Latin.—Gould's edition of Adam's Latin Grammar, 166 chapters in Historic Sacre, Viri Romae to the first Punic war, 4 books of Caesar's Commentaries, Virgil's Bucolics, Georgicks, and 6 books of the Aeneid, all of Horace, with the exception of those parts not suitable to be read, Sallust, through the Catalinarian war, Cicero Orations in Catalinarian Oratio pro Minucia, et Lege Manilla.

Greek.—Anthon's edition of Valpey's Greek Grammar, Greek Testament, John's gospel and the Acts of the Apostles, Graeca Minora, all, Green Majora through the historical part, and two books of Xenophon.

English Grammar.—Murray's duodecimo Grammar, Geography—Olney's or Smiley's (Olney would be preferred.)

The next session will commence on the first day of July next. The scholastic year contains ten months, divided into two equal sessions.

S. W. ERWIN. 92-1f

Mecklenburg, May 29th, 1834.
P. S. Those wishing to obtain information, in regard to the subscriber, are referred to Dr. M. M. Orr, of Concord, the Rev. John Robinson, D. D. and Chas. W. Harris, Esq. Mill Grove, to Rev. W. S. Pharr, Mecklenburg.

Blank Warrants for sale at this Office.