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C. N. B. EVANS.
Proprietor and Publisher.

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AGRICULTURAL

From the Farmer & Gardener.

Experiments of the injury to corn caused by gathering the fodder.

Several publications in the Register have stated the increase of Indian corn, matured with the blades and tops. The common usage in this country, which I have followed is, to gather the blades as soon as they begin to spot, and to cut the tops immediately upon securing the blades. About the first of September last, I strip the blades from several rows in one of my corn fields, leaving a row alternately undisturbed; and cut the tops about the 7th of the month, in like manner. As I designed to make a fair and satisfactory experiment, I suffered both blades & tops to be much withered before I took them from the stalks. The last of November I gathered the corn from the stripped and unstripped rows, when it was dry, and in good condition, and put it away in my barn in separate parcels, in the shucks, from both of which I husked out, the 6th of the present month, one hundred ears, without particular selection, and now subjoin their weight and measurement. I am sensible that this experiment will not precisely correspond with others which may be made. The result of such experiments will be influenced by the quality of the soil, the goodness of the crop the manner of planting, and the maturity of the corn at the time the blades and tops are gathered. My experiment was made from a field planted four feet each way, which had an early, vigorous growth, unchecked by insects or drought and which produced more than forty-five bushels to the acre. I made other different trials upon the parcels I have mentioned, both by weight and measurement, which I think unnecessary to state, as they all tended to the same result; but perhaps, I ought not omit to mention, that the weight of the cobs of the unstripped corn was double the weight of the stripped, as it proves that subtracting the blades and tops dries up that part of the plant which immediately supplies aliment to the grain. To this cause I also attribute the perfection of the grain to the end of the cob of the unstripped corn whilst that on the stripped had, for the most part, withered or perished.

100 ears of Indian corn matured with blades and tops—weight } 54lbs
do, shelled, 54
do measurement, 26 quarts, 1 pint
100 ears of Indian corn stripped of blades and tops: weight on cob, } 50
do, shelled } 41
do, measurement 21 quarts.

I have long desired to abandon gathering fodder; but it is hard to depart from common usage, especially, if the deviation has the appearance of negligence. The month of September is usually devoted by farmers to this work; the dews are then heavy, and highly injurious to labourers; it is the season for intermittent fevers, which I believe are often contracted in this employment. The month of September might be most usefully devoted to drawing out manure and other manures, and preparing fallows for wheat. When the wheat is sown and the corn gathered at full maturity, the corn stalks with the blades and tops, afford some provender and excellent litter for cattle. Few farmers have such floating capital, as justify them in entering upon the schemes of improvement without calculating the cost and probable result. The provender afforded by Indian corn cannot be abandoned, unless an equivalent be supplied. A farm divided into four or five fields, of forty acres each, and one of them annually in Indian corn, will not produce fodder, even if the land be in an approved state;

beyond five hundred pounds to the acre—equally to ten tons. Four acres set in orchard grass and clover, will, if marled and manured, in two cuttings yield ten tons of hay. A gentleman in an adjoining county, in whom I have entire confidence, assured me that from one acre, very highly improved, he gathered six tons in one year. I estimate the enclosing, marling, manuring, and settling to grass four acres, at one hundred dollars per acre, and the land thus diverted from the usual purposes of agriculture, at twenty-five dollars per acre, amounting to one thousand five hundred dollars. The capital thus invested, is not sunk, but is safe and sound, and the interest upon this sum, together with the cost of cutting and securing the hay, which I estimate at forty-five dollars, is the price to be paid annually for hay, in lieu of blades and tops. A field of forty acres of Indian corn which now yields, under the old system of gathering, forty bushels to the acre—equal to one thousand bushels, if my experiment, or that of others, be not fallacious, will produce an additional fifth, amounting to one thousand nine hundred and thirty-three and a third bushels; thereby producing a gain of three hundred and thirty-three and a third bushels—equal, at fifty cents a bushel to one hundred and sixty six dollars and two thirds, to which is to be added the value of the labour saved, and the grazing after the hay is secured, which is worth something. If a lot be once well set in orchard grass and occasionally dressed with manure from the stable, where the grass is fed it will remain in a state of undiminished production for many years—in this I feel confidence, from my own observation.

I have but one pit of blue marl in which I have found 'gunpowder marl.' It exhibits no lime by the test of acids. There is no green sand—but it has many shining particles, and a sulphurous smell. It retains the impression of large shells, and some sharks' teeth, in a state of perfect soundness, have been found. I have supposed that the hardness of the teeth has resisted the agents which decomposed the shells. On this subject, Mr. Newton's essay in the Register is highly instructive. I have long thought that this pit contained properties, fertilizing beyond lime. It does not by the test of acids exhibit lime equal to another pit; yet it has been uniformly quicker in its action, and greater in its product. I am pleased that specimens of the gunpowder marl found in Virginia, have been sent to Professor Rogers. Agriculture stands indebted to him for much useful information. I left a specimen, taken from my pit, with our Professor Ducatel. If the properties, suggested by Mr. Newton, shall be found in them, in addition to my own personal benefit, I shall feel gratified that this source of improvement is common to Virginia and Maryland.

As this article contains little more than a statement of facts, I have subjoined my name in attestation of their accuracy.
WILIAM CARMICHAEL.

Why shouldn't a Farmer know a thing or two?—Why should not a farmer know more than other folks? They certainly ought to, for they have in this country more to do than others. They have to make more use of the powers or laws of nature than other folks; they have to use the elements for tools—they are indeed practical chemists (whether they are aware of it or not,) for they have to make use of the various substances which nature gave them—they have to combine, separate, modify and change both simples and compounds. Their farm is at one and the same time a laboratory & a work shop, and in proportion as they operate in such a way as to afford the several elements of which the substances are composed and upon whom they are operating, disunite or combine, will be their success. They depend on the vegetable world for subsistence—their labor is among and upon the plants of the earth—why should they not know the proper name and nature of every tree and herb and plant? They have to contend with insects and animals—why should they not know the habits and the natures of these as well or better than any other class of people. They have to work upon the earth, they have to put it in a condition to bear a good crop; they have to change the state of it and adapt it to the various purposes and crops,—why should they not know more and better respecting the ingredients of their soil—the various mineral or fossil substances which they may find either upon their own or other's farms? They have to 'discern the face of the sky,' and watch the changes of the atmosphere, and regulate their movements in accordance to the changes of the weather, temperature, &c. Why should they not know as much or more of the composition of the atmosphere, and the science of meteorology than any other people? They must use tools or implements of labour. They must take advantage of the principles of mechanics and the application of mathematics to practical life. Is there any good reason why they should not know as much or more than others, respecting the science of Mechanics or Natural Philosophy? In this country they have to contribute largely to the support and formation of government, and upon them depends the election of rulers and law-makers—why should they not understand the fundamental principles of national law—political science and political economy? They have to administer to the sickness of animals under their charge—heel wounds and restore health—why should they not perfectly understand comparative anatomy, at least, and also physiology and the symptoms and treatment of diseases, as well as any others? Indeed so wide is the field of his labours, so numerous the objects with which he is connected, so various the operations which he has to perform, that we verily think that a farmer ought to be the most learned man upon earth. But can a man conquer or make himself perfectly familiar with every science and every thing? By no means yet nevertheless he should have his mind so well stored with the general principles of all the sciences, that he can be guided by them when it becomes necessary to be more particular, and to know when he employs a man devoted particularly to any one branch, whether he is competent to the task, and will discharge his duty to him with fidelity and precision.
Maine Farmer.

MISCELLANEOUS

CIRCUMSTANTIAL EVIDENCE.

BARBER OF ENTRY.

'Please your worship,' said the eldest of the three accusers, 'this boy an' my son Ned were at work together yesterday, an' they had some words comm' home which nobody then took much notice of. But this morning it so happened that I went to work in your honor's practice garden agreeable to orders. It was carry, an' I expected to be first upon the ground, which I knew to be pleasant to your honor, but I was overtaken on the road by these two neighbors,—so the three of us went on together with our spades in our hands. When we come into the field it was just the dusk o' dawn. 'Stop,' says this man here to me, 'don't you hear groanin'?' 'I hear something,' says I,—'but I made nothing of it, thinkin' it was the wind.' 'Tis not the wind,' says he, 'but some one that got a bad hurt, an' there they are!' Sure enough at that minute we seen this boy here tryin' to make off with a pitchfork, this pitchfork here—in his hand, but we pinned him. Little I knew what use he was after—her' puttin' it to. I wish I had no more to tell: it's clear I earned your worship's praizes. We found my boy a dead corpse in the furrow, an' there's the villain that done it.'

The two other witnesses being examined, corroborated in all circumstances the evidence given by the first. Having patiently heard all they had to say, and finding that they had not detected the man in the very act, Moynihan, seemed desirous to dismiss the case. It was true, he said, they had found a man on the spot with the bloody weapon in his hand, and with his hands on the dead body. This and his precipitate flight when seen, and the disagreement of the previous evening, were strong circumstances,—yet they did not amount to actual evidence of guilt, and he called on the prisoner for his explanation.

The unhappy man turned pale and red alternately, and trembled as if his doom had been already fixed. He acknowledged the dispute, and indeed all the circumstances deposed by his accusers, yet he attested heaven that he was wholly guiltless.

'I went into the field,' said he, to my work, an' I found the corpse before me in the furrow, an' the pitchfork lyin' anear it, an' while I was feelin' him to see if he had any life, because I was afeard they'd say 'twas I done it, an' I took the pitch fork with me in my fright.'

Mr. Moynihan, who seemed affected in the strongest manner by the poor fellow's anxiety, was so far from judging him guilty, that he peremptorily refused to issue a warrant of committal, and used all his influence to disuade the friends of the deceased from proceeding further against the

prisoner. To this, however, they would by no means listen. They conveyed the accused before another magistrate, who committed him to jail without hesitation.

The day of trial came and Mr. Moynihan happened to be one of the jury. The evidence was the same as before the judge—his old acquaintance. To the whole court, except to Moynihan, the testimony seemed conclusive. He, however, would not listen to the thought of a conviction. The foreman made his report to the judge, who reproached Mr. Moynihan severely with his obstinacy. The latter however was not to be moved, and the issue was (as the rumor goes) that the jury kicked and the prisoner was set at liberty.

When the judge had returned to his lodgings he could not avoid reflecting on the extraordinary character of this man, who had thus, to gratify a favorite theory let a murderer loose upon society & set up his own solitary judgment against the unanimous conviction of a crowded court. So deeply did it prey upon his mind, that he sent for Moynihan, in order that they might exchange some quiet conversation on the subject. The latter readily attended on his summons.

'My lord,' said Mr. Moynihan, with a serious air on hearing the cause of the judge's message, 'you may remember a conversation which we had sometime since on the subject of circumstantial evidence?'

'Perfectly well,' replied the judge.

'I told your lordship then,' said Mr. Moynihan, 'that the time might yet arrive when I should have an opportunity of making you a convert to my opinion.'

'That time, Mr. Moynihan, is certainly yet to come,—for I never knew a case so clearly against you, as that which we have tried to-day. May I request to know your reasons for such extraordinary perseverance—to give it no farther name?'

'My reasons are at your lordship's service,' answered Mr. Moynihan, 'provided that I have your solemn word of honor not to divulge them during my own lifetime.'

The judge, without hesitation, gave him the promise he desired.

'Admit, my lord,' said Moynihan, 'that this case had all the strength of circumstantial testimony which you considered necessary, but I could not in conscience convict the prisoner, for I AM MYSELF the slayer of the deceased.'

The judge started back in horror.

'Yes,' said he, 'it happened on that morning that I was in the field before any of my workmen. The deceased was the first who made his appearance, and I rebuked him for his neglect. Being a man of a hot temper, he answered me with more than equal warmth, and I lost all command of mine. I struck him—he returned the blow—I held the pitchfork in my hand, and with one more blow I felled him to the earth. I fled in terror, & in less than one hour after, the prisoner was brought before me. Judge whether I had not reason to be constant in my verdict of acquittal.'

The judge kept his promise,—but from that day forward he was much more cautious in receiving circumstantial evidence on a capital charge.

THE BIBLE.

MR. EDITOR.—It is a common thing to hear infidels arrogate to themselves the name of philosophers, as though indeed philosophy consisted in doubting. The few extracts which follow, will show in what light some, acknowledged to be among the most eminent philosophers of modern times, have viewed the sacred writings. Similar quotations might be multiplied; but it was once said in relation to certain unbelievers, 'If they hear not Moses and the prophets, neither will they be persuaded, though one rose from the dead.'

Dr. Robinson, the natural philosopher, also fellow of the Royal Society, and of the College of Physicians, says 'The Scriptures of the Old and New Testament contain a system of human nature, the grandest, the most extensive and complete, that was ever divulged to mankind since the foundation of nature.'

Dr. Grew, who was much engaged in the publication of the philosophical transactions of the Royal Society, of which he was fellow, and also secretary, has left on record the following testimony:—'The Bible contains the laws of God's kingdom in this lower world: and religion is so far from being inconsistent with philosophy, that it is the highest point and perfection in it.'

Dr. David Hartley, fellow of Jesus College, Cambridge, some of whose writings are found in the philosophical trans-

actions, remarks: 'No writers, from the invention of letters to the present times, are equal to the pen of the Books of the Old and New Testaments, in true excellence, utility, and dignity.'

Boyle, who was one of the founders of the Royal Society, and who in the language of Boerhave, 'was the ornament of the age and country,' says, 'The Bible is a matchless volume and it is impossible we can study it too much or esteem it too highly.'

Locke has said, 'Morality becomes a gentleman, not merely as a man, but in order to do his business as a gentleman, and the morality of the gospel doth so exceed that of all other books, that to give a man a full knowledge of true morality, I would send him to no book but the New Testament.'

Sir Isaac Newton, 'whose science was truth, and the foundation of whose knowledge of it was philosophy,' says, 'I account the Scriptures of God to be the most sublime philosophy.'

The learned Chillingworth, whose power as a reasoner, and whose candor and discrimination, as a philosopher, have called forth the commendations of Locke himself, presents his confidence in the Bible in the following expressive way: 'Propose to me any thing out of the Bible, and inquire whether I believe it or not, and seem it never so incomprehensible to human reason; I will subscribe to it with hand and heart, as knowing no demonstration can be stronger than this—God has said so, therefore it must be true.'

It might fill columns of your Journal with the bare names of those who uttered sentiments like those which I have selected.—Let those who have been accustomed to think the Bible as fit only for the perusal of the aged or the recluse, turn to its pages and learn wisdom from its instructions.—And to the sceptical, let me say in the language of Dr. Young:

Retire and read thy Bible to be gay,
There truths abound of sovereign aid to peace;
Who do not prize them less because inspired,
As thou and thine art apt to do.
If not inspired, that pregnant page hath stood
Time's treasure: sure! and the wonder of the wise.'

FROM THE COLUMBIA TELESCOPE.

We have received from a bookseller, a copy of 'The Angler's Annual,' a finely decorated volume, with many plates, in splendid binding, price marked, 7 dollars. The thing is pretty, but we demand to know why it was sent to us! Does the Publisher expect us not only to countenance, but actually to puff (and perhaps even practice!) the lazy and cruel sport, upon which he has wasted so much good print and paper? Our indignation shall be expressed in the words of Byron, which we adopt, verse and prose.

'And angling, too, that solitary vice,
Whatever Isaac Walton sings or says,
The quaint, old, cruel cock-bait, in his gullet
Should have a hook, and a small trout to pull it.'

'It (the hook) should have taught him humanity at least. This sentimental savage, whom it is the mode to quote among the novelists, to show their sympathy for innocent sports and old songs, teaches how to sew up frogs, and break their legs by way of experiment, in addition to the art of angling—the cruellest, the coldest, and the stupidest of pretended sports.—They may talk about the beauties of nature, but the angler merely thinks of his dish of fish: he has no leisure to take his eyes from off the stream, and a single bite is worth more to him than all the scenery around. Besides, some fish bite best on a rainy day. The whale, shark, and the tunny fishery have somewhat of noble and perilous in them: even net fishery, trailing, &c., are more humane and useful. But angling!—no angler can be a good man.'

A Western Giant.—A correspondent of one of the Eastern papers, writing from Louisville, gives the following portrait of a Kentucky giant:

'I have said the Louisvillians can boast of one thing—they can of two, the best public house in the West, and the tallest man in all christendom. They challenge, and well they may, not only this, but any other country, to exhibit what they can—a youth, 19 years of age, measuring 7 feet 6½ inches in height! I have seen him, and without knowing his length, should judge it to be nearer 10 than 7 feet! I conversed with him, but with difficulty. Standing on the ground and conversing with a man in a steeple, or holding converse with the spirits of the clouds, is no easy matter. He informed me that at the age of 12, he was unusually small—and growing 3½ inches the last year, he is sensible of being still on the increase. His patriotism who can doubt? He stands, or stood, when I saw him, a living monument to his country's greatness. He is not corpulent but rather slender—hence he appears taller than he really is—but really he is tall enough, as the Lord knows. Add, or rather superadd, any to a man that has attained to any thing like his height, and such a figure appear almost like feet.'