

E. Graves

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## AGRICULTURAL.

From the American Centinel. TO GARDENERS, FARMERS, &c. NO 2.

Messrs. Frick & Co.

In my first number, published in your paper of the 9th inst. I promised that my succeeding essay should contain some general observations on the diseases, defects and injuries of different kinds of Fruit Trees, and that I would point out some remedies I should proceed. In complying with my promise I shall take the liberty to observe, partly in the language of Mr. Forsyth, of Kingston, who has had more than twenty years practice in cultivating, pruning and keeping garden fruit trees, and I having had some experience myself, have observed, that from natural causes, accidents, and unskilful management, they are subject to injuries of different kinds, which always diminished their fertility, and frequently rendered them wholly unproductive.

All trees that bear stone fruit are liable to omit a gum, which by producing a canker, proves fatal to the health and vegetation of the tree.

Some receive injury from unskilful pruning, bad management, accidents, violence of high winds, having boughs and limbs broken off, which being left in a state exposed to the air and hard frosts, and to long soaking rains, the wounds imbibe so large a quantity of air, wet and moisture, as by causing a fermentation, with the natural juices, brings on diseases, and in a short time destroys the health and vegetation of the tree.

To remove these evils, and to prevent the ill consequences arising from the causes already described, I submit the following remedy, which has been applied with universal success to all kinds of fruit trees, and has not only prevented further decay but actually restored vegetation and increased fruitfulness, even in such as were apparently barren and decayed. It has produced also a similar effect on forest trees, by restoring them to soundness, and clothing them with fresh and vigorous foliage.

The remedy is either to apply some of the composition described in my first number, and in the manner therein also described; or, which I think rather preferable, take some of the composition and mix therewith equal parts of urine and soap-suds so as to reduce it to the consistence of pretty thick paint, and lay it on the wounded parts of the trees with a painter's brush; when the powder of wood ashes and burnt bones must be applied, as before directed in my first number. Before applying the composition in any way, all the decayed or dead wood must be cut from the wounded part, and it must then be carefully smoothed with a sharp knife or instrument of some kind. This compound is of a soft and healing nature, and possesses an absorbent and adhesive quality, and will resist and prevent any bad effects from frost, rains, hot sun, or drying winds, and whenever it shall be properly applied, it will be productive of all the advantages that can be derived from restoring as well as preserving vigor and fertility in all kinds of fruit trees, as also from preventing decay, and promoting health, in every other species of fruit trees.

The Canker is a disease incident to trees, which occasions the bark to grow rough and scabby, and turns

the wood affected to a rusty brown colour—This disease, if no remedy is applied, will kill the tree.

Apple trees are very liable to be infected with the canker from injudicious pruning from ladders, in bruising and rubbing the bark off, in gathering fruit, from the breaking of boughs, and various other causes, and then leaving the wounds exposed without applying the composition immediately. Great care should also be taken with such trees as are trained, that nails be not driven so as to do injury, that the shreds be not too tight, which often causes a swelling in the shoot, and very often produces the canker.

Careless people frequently leave the dead shoots on trees through the summer, which will infallibly bring on the canker. They should be cut off as soon in the spring as it can be ascertained for certainty, how far the disease has advanced by the rising of the sap. I would advise its being taken off two or three buds below the apparent diseased part, so that nothing remain but sound white wood when apply the composition as before described.

When by accident or improper treatment, trees receive large wounds and the cures is left to nature, they frequently overrun with gum and canker, which, if not checked, will in a short time totally ruin them. In this case, all the dead and diseased part must be carefully pared or cut off with a drawing knife, or some other convenient instrument, till no appearance of infection remains, when the composition must be applied as before described.

When the trunk of the tree has become hollow, cut the loose rotten part clean out till you come to the sound live wood, then apply the composition in a liquid state, with a brush wherever the dead wood or cankered bark has been cut off, after which sift on the powder of wood ashes and burnt bones, as before mentioned. If the foregoing directions be carefully followed, the canker will be completely eradicated, and the hollow trunk in time, be filled up with sound wood.

It is much to be regretted, that such multitudes of fruit trees all over our country, are in such a mutilated unfruitful state. After gentlemen have purchased young trees from nurseries, and planted them in their gardens for orchards, they are too apt to think that every thing necessary is done, when, in fact there is a great deal yet to do.

In packing and bringing from the nursery, the stems and branches are very frequently broken and bruised; in that case, the injured part of the bark and wood must be carefully cut out, and the composition and powder applied. If this is neglected, the canker will follow, to the great injury, if not the death of the trees. In all parts of our country, we may see vast numbers of trees so affected with this disease as not to produce fruit enough in twelve or fourteen years to pay half the expense attending them; whereas, if they were to be managed according to the foregoing directions, they would more than pay all the expense in three or four years. If the injured and diseased parts be not cut out at a very early period, the trees will not thrive, but will become cankered and stunted, and cannot be recovered afterwards without a great deal of labour and trouble, whereas, if the directions here given be early attended to, the trees will flourish, and bear large crops of fine and well flavoured fruit.

The heading of trees the first year after being transplanted from the nursery, is practised by some with great success. So likewise is washing them with a decoction of fresh cow-dung, soap-suds and urine, in the morning of a clear summer day.

It should be remembered, that all fruit trees love a fine rich mellow loam, and thrive much better in it than in any other soil.

I contemplate giving in my next number, some further observations on some other diseases to which fruit trees are very liable.

PENN. FARMER.

## DOMESTIC ECONOMY.

From the New York National Advocate.

It has been frequently asked, what is the cause of this increase of pauperism in our city? how is it that our poorhouse is not only crowded with age and decay, but even youthful mendicity? how is it that so many young women become inmates of charitable institutions, and that so many of them foreigners? and above all, to what cause are we to attribute an increase of depravity, sensuality and crime? These are serious questions, which, one day, we must seriously ask ourselves. Volumes have been written on pauperism, which, though they may not fully apply to our case, yet, in principle, if not in extent, they have a close connexion.—Mankind is the same all over the world, and the same remedies may be safely applied in like cases. The want of industry is the foundation of the evil, and that industry in the poor order of the community can only be promoted by example among the better educated and refined. We have often imagined that our domestic economy was greatly misunderstood, if not sadly neglected, and we have frequently been tempted to attribute the cause at once to our wives and daughters; but the force of offending, when we would only seek to reform, has ever checked our complaints. But the evil may increase until whole communities fall victims to its effects; and, though we tread on dangerous ground we must pluck up courage to say, that our ladies, generally, are not sufficiently industrious, and having said so we throw ourselves on their mercy for an indulgent hearing. It is sometimes necessary to mingle in domestic concerns—to leave the arena of governments, the asperity of politics, and the hurry of business, to look at home, where, after all, true happiness is only to be found—where surrounded by family, by endearing ties, and by household gods, a true estimate of character can, alone, be formed. We employ too many domestics, and thus encourage idleness and extravagance. The labor of a house which can be effected by two persons should never employ four. Servant maids, whose time is not wholly engrossed by employment, and who have not before them the cheering and judicious example of industry in their mistresses, acquire too soon a negligence, extravagance and listlessness, which begets indifference, pampers the body and corrupts the mind. They are then dismissed their place; they try another, and the result is the same; without stability and industry they continue to change until they can no longer find a place, and then they swell the list of depravity or increase the number of mendicants. The mistress who sets an example of industry to the maid, will ever derive the benefit of her labors, and the maid will reciprocally gain every thing from the example. But says the fashionable wife, am I to rub furniture, visit the kitchen, and darn nightcaps? We say, ay, good dame, for it will produce health and content, economy and happiness. Why do our ladies look pale? Why are they not florid and robust? Why do so many fall victims to disease and early death? It is because they do not take sufficient exercise—they do not bustle sufficiently about the house—they do not appropriate a due portion of their time to domestic concerns. What can be more engaging than seeing the tidy, active wife, and the accomplished woman blended in one person?—What, in domestic life, wears an aspect so winning as the cultivated mistress of the drawing room and the industrious mother combined? Economy is the foundation of prosperity in all things, but particularly in domestic life. Ladies should make their own dresses and fabricate their own bonnets. Milliners and mantuamakers, it is true, would not be encouraged, but what then? Money would be saved, rents would decrease, provisions would be cheap, idleness unknown, and poverty unseen. Another

evil now strikes me forcibly. We have too many societies erroneously called charitable, which create artificial wants rather than supply real ones, which tend to encourage pauperism instead of industry. Our wives and daughters are ambitious of the honor of being members of these multiplied associations, civil, ecclesiastical and mechanical societies; and the annual contributions and admission fees, swell in the aggregate to a sum which in truth, the head of a family, careful of his own interest, cannot well afford, in addition to taxes and other burdens. Dress is exorbitantly extravagant—simplicity is no longer known—fashion triumphs with an iron scepter, now reigns triumphant. Cashmere and merino shawls, Leghorns at forty dollars, watch, chain, and seals, rings and other unnecessary valuables, constitute our ladies a walking mine of wealth.—Those who cannot afford to be in the fashion stretch their utmost means to imitate their neighbors, and gradually become poor, when, with proper economy they might have been comfortable. All classes of society are more or less affected by fashion, or borne away by example. Hence pauperism poverty in old age, and want in early life. A little resolution and the evil is overcome. If we agree to call a plain chip hat and muslin gown fashionable—if we agree that the industrious wife is the most fashionable being in the world, who dare dispute it?—Here we have the remedy in our own hands; and never can the wife be made sensible of these facts until the husband, by a proper example, confirms them—until they both unite to promote industry, economy content and happiness.

HOWARD.

## MODERN TRAVELS.

From Darby's Tour from New York to Detroit.

### FALLS OF NIAGARA.

I passed between Navy and Grand Islands, and landed at old fort Schlosser, and walked down the shore to Whitney's opposite the falls; it was near sun-set; silence began to reign over the face of nature. Slowly, and at intervals, I heard the deep, long and awful roar of the cataract; my mind, which for years had dwelt with anticipation upon this greatest of the world's traits, approached the scene with fearful solicitude. I beheld the permanent objects, the trees, the rocks; and I beheld also the passing clouds, that momentarily flitted over the most interesting picture that nature ever painted and exposed to the admiration of intelligent beings, with more than my common forbearance; I concluded to behold amid the beams of a rising sun the greatest object ever presented to human view. But whilst the stars of the night gleamed through the misty atmosphere of this apparently fairy land, I walked forth to the margin of the cataract, and in fancy conceived the beauties, the horrors, and the wonders the coming morning would produce. That morn opened, (July 30th) it was clear and serene. I expected much, and was not disappointed. The point of land above A. [in the map] is a thick wood standing upon a sloping bank. The noise of the cataract is heard, but its features unseen until the observer advances to the verge of the fall; it is then seen so obliquely as to destroy its best effect. Defensive, however, as was this perspective of Niagara, it presented beauties infinitely transcending any I had ever seen before. I stood upon the very slope over which the torrent rushed, and for many minutes forgot every other object except the undecipherable scene before me; but when the fervor of imagination had in some measure subsided, I beheld under my feet, carved on the smooth rock, G. D. C.; W. P. and J. B. and many other initials of friends that had visited this incomparable spot, and left these memorials, that friends only could understand. On beholding these recollections of home you will forgive me when I acknowledge having dropt upon their traces tears, that were rapidly swallowed in the vortex Niagara. The beams

of morning came, and glanced upon the curling volumes that rose from the abyss beneath; my eye searched the bottom of this awful gulf, and found in its bosom darkness, gloom, and indescribable tumult. My reflections dwelt upon their never ending conflict, this eternal march of the elements, and my very soul shrunk back upon itself. The shelving rock on which I stood, trembled under my feet, and the irresistible flood before me seemed to present the pictured image of evanescence. The rock was yielding peaceably to ruin, fragment after fragment was borne in the terrible chasm beneath; and the very stream that hurried these broken marbles to destruction, was itself a monument of changing power.

I retraced my way to Col. Whitney's, and after breakfast returned, and descending the almost perpendicular bank of rocks, found myself under the tremendous FALL OF WATER, that even in description has excited the admiration of cultivated man! I crossed the Niagara strait about 250 yards below the chute. The river was, in some measure, ruffled by the conflict it had sustained above, but no danger approached the passenger. Perpendicular walls of rock rose on both sides, to the appalling elevation of between three and four hundred feet. The trees which crowned the upper verge of this abyss appeared like shrubs. I was drenched to the skin by the spray of the cataract;—but the sublime scene towering over my head, was too impressive to permit much reflection upon a momentary inconvenience.

The river below the fall flows with considerable rapidity, but with less velocity or turbulence than I had been induced to expect. The opposing banks are half the descent; below which enormous walls, extend slopes, composed of the broken fragments that have been torn from their original position by the torrents from above.—Most maps of Niagara are very defective, the river being represented too straight.

The best delineation of this phenomenon which I have seen is contained in the map of Niagara river, published with Gen. Wilkinson's Memoirs. In that draft, the river above the falls is represented, as it is in fact, flowing almost westward. Below the chute the stream flows abruptly to the north east, which course it pursues more than a mile, from whence it again resumes a northern direction, which, with some partial bends, it continues to the place of its final exit on lake Ontario.

Between the lower extremity of Grand island and the mouth of Chippewa river, the Niagara is upwards of a mile wide, but contracts a little as the rapids commence. The banks as high as Chippewa river are not very much elevated above the surface of the strait, but apparently rise in descending to the pitch or chute. This change of relative height is only a deception in vision, occasioned by the wear of the cataract. After crossing as I have already mentioned, I traversed the Canada shore to the bank above the grand or Canada chute. On the diagram enclosed I have marked the letter C. upon the spot, from where the best view can be taken of the falls, rapids and islands. Many persons have insisted that the best view of the falls is to be had from goat island. At this time I cannot form a comparative judgment, as the bridge built by Judge Porter, from the New York shore to Goat island, was broken by the ice of last winter. I am doubtful of the fact, of the falls being seen to very much advantage from this island as the perspective must be very oblique. The rapids are, however, but little less worthy of a visit than the falls themselves, and can no doubt be seen with much greater effect from Goat island than from either shore of the strait. The rapids, indeed, on the Canada channel is a scene of sublimity and grandeur.—Tumbling over ledges, many of which are four or ten feet perpendicular descent; these rapids are in fact a chain of cataracts over which the immense volume rolls its