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## AGRICULTURE.

From the *Richmond Enquirer*.

We seize this opportunity to lay before our readers the following Exposition from the pen of Hill Carter, of Shirley—well known as one of the best among the enlightened farmers on the James River.

[From the *Farmers' Register*.]

### THE FOUR SHIFT SYSTEM.

The best rotation for James River lands, or any good wheat and corn soils.

Imagine no one will deny that the best rotation of crops is that which yields the greatest profit to the farmer, and at the same time enables him to improve his land the most rapidly. The great object is to combine both profit and improvement. By some systems, you may improve faster than by the above, but then you make much less profit; and by none, in a series of years, will you make more profit with the same improvement.

I think I cannot establish the above theory in a more satisfactory manner than by giving a concise account of the system practised on a James River farm for the last seventeen years, with what success I leave the reader to judge from the product. In the year 1816, I came to live on Shirley, a farm of nine hundred acres—six hundred and fifty of which were cleared, and which had been in the hands of overseers for many years previous, who cultivated it on the old-fashioned system of three shifts—that is to say, the first year in corn, second in wheat, and third in pasture—the most ruinous system that could be invented, taking into consideration the shallow ploughing, and waste of manure, or almost total disuse of it. By this system the farm was so much impoverished, that it barely supported itself two years out of the three, when the two best fields were cultivated; and the third year, they had to bring corn to support it from other lands at a distance. The whole farm was covered with galls. I merely mention these things to prove the impoverished state of the land.

I will also state the crops reported to have been made previous to my coming here to live. From twelve hundred to fifteen hundred bushels of wheat, (sometimes not merchantable), and four hundred to six hundred barrels of corn on either of the best fields of two hundred acres each, was considered great cropping by the overseers; and seven hundred to one thousand bushels of wheat, and three hundred to four hundred barrels of corn on the third shift of two hundred and fifty acres, was considered still better as that was the poorest. This was about six or seven bushels of wheat, or two or three barrels of corn to the acre, on the best fields, and much less on the poorest: so that it may be supposed the land must have been very much exhausted, and the management very bad. When I first came home to live I knew nothing of agriculture, and for the first three years continued the three shift system. But I soon saw that the overseer knew little or nothing of his trade, and what little he did know, did not practice; so that I dismissed him as soon as his term expired, and employed, for 1817, a man who was industrious, and one of the best corn makers in the state, (having been all his life in the great corn country on the Pamunkey.) From him I learnt how to make corn, but he knew nothing of wheat, clover and plaster, or any of the present modes of improvement. However, by the aid of good ploughing, and collecting all the manure which had been neglected for years on the farm, he made a better crop of corn on the poorest shift, than had been made for many years back, even on the best. He made eight hundred barrels. His crop of wheat in 1818, following this crop of corn, was indifferent, (being still on the three shift system,) only eleven hundred and fifty bushels. I saw that there was something wrong about this system, and began to read a little on the subject of agriculture, and soon discovered that the three shift system was totally wrong; and although I sowed clover and plaster it would not answer. At the same time that I began to read on the subject of agriculture, I went frequently to visit my good friend John G. Mosby, who then lived in Curles' Neck, on James River, and to whom I was a Virginia, or at least lower James River, is more indebted than to any other man in the State, for the introduction of clover and plaster, and the fallow system—the three forming the sheet anchor on a farm; for when all seems to be lost, they will save the ship.

From my friend J. G. M. (who, by the way, was one of the best farmers in the state,) I obtained a great deal of useful information; and in the fall of 1818, adopted the four shift system, by throwing out the poorest field of two hundred and fifty acres, and making pasture of it, and cultivating the other two shifts in four fields of one hundred acres each, instead of two, of two hundred acres each. This change required annually one field of one hundred acres in corn, a second in wheat after corn, a third in clover, and a fourth in wheat on a clover fallow: and in the succession of crops on each separate field was in the following order, of 1st corn—2d, wheat—3d, clover—4th, wheat. The standing pasture prevented the necessity of grazing in the cultivated part of the farm, except occasionally. The effect, was like magic. The crop of wheat after the clover fallow, in 1819, was 3715 bushels, (which I carried to New York, and got a high price for.) The crop of corn was tolerable, being four hundred and eighty-seven barrels. I now got fully into the clover, plaster and fallow system, and will now state the amount of crops, the seasons, the success, and failures, causes, &c. &c. and by way of fair comparison, will begin with 1816, the year I began farming.

#### Table of crops made upon the three shift rotation.

Year.	Wheat. Bushels.	Corn. Barrels.
1816	1400	450
1817	1475	800
1818	1150	670

The three fields amounting to 650 acres.

#### Crops made on the rotation of four fields, each one hundred acres, (until 1832.)

Year.	Wheat. Bushels.	Corn. Barrels.	Oats. Bushels.	Clover. Tons.
1819	3715	487		A little
1820a	1761	534		more'd each year.
1821b	1688	375	1000	
1822c	1720	387	1170	50
1823	2458	520	1751	30
1824d	5322	383	1500	25
1825e	2700	464	1000	40

REMARKS.  
[a] Wheat nearly destroyed by rust this year: there was enough straw for four thousand bushels.  
[b] Wheat again nearly destroyed by rust—very heavy crop of straw. The oats made on forty acres of the corn land the preceding year.  
[c] Rust on wheat again—the oats as before, and for the three next years on part of the corn land of the previous years.  
[d] Including some inferior grain got from the screenings, the crop of wheat measured 5400 bushels.  
[e] Rust again very destructive to the wheat.

Another change was made in 1826, and will continue through the remainder of the table, viz: the corn crops were altogether derived from the reclaimed swamp, then brought into cultivation, (as described in my previous communication,) and oats occupied the whole of the field before used for corn, and thereafter was the only spring crop of the rotation on high-land, with a single exception in 1831. I will here remark that having a corn mill on the estate, which yielded enough toll corn to feed the labourers and raise the hogs, and the oats being more than sufficient to feed the horses and other stock, the corn became all (or very nearly all) a sale crop. Besides the crop stated in the table, we generally made enough cotton to clothe the negroes, and pork to feed them, all of which had been purchased under the former three shift rotation.

Year.	Wheat. Bushels.	Corn. Barrels.	Oats. Bushels.
1826	4090	445	2500
1827f	2945	408	6000
1828g	3300	508	1463
1829h	3150	833	2255
1830i	3681	620	2433
1831k	3860	562	2300
1832l	5900	509	good crop, but used without threshing

#### REMARKS.

[f] This was the greatest oat year ever known in our country. We threshed and measured only half the shocks, which made three thousand bushels, and the remainder estimated at the same, was cut and fed away in the straw.

[g] Ploughed in fifty acres of oats to ameliorate the land, having a large supply of the preceding year's crop on hand still. The effect produced by ploughing in the oats, did not justify the repetition.

[h] Some oats cut up for feeding this year and the next. Are not included in the quantity stated for those years.

[i] Limed fifty acres fallowed land with five hundred casks of stone lime—the effect very considerable on the wheat.

[j] Two hundred barrels of this crop of corn were from twenty-five acres of the oat field, which is the only exception to the general practice of corn being excluded from the highland.

[k] Three hundred and twenty-five acres in wheat, instead of two hundred as before, by an addition from the land before kept for pasture.

In the fall of 1831, the standing pasture (two hundred and fifty acres) was divided into four equal parts, and one of them added to each of the four fields, so as to increase the size of each to one hundred and sixty-two and a half acres. This year (1833,) I have purchased two hundred acres for a standing pasture, to make my system complete; and the next winter, shall clear twenty five acres more to add to my cultivated fields, which (with the 25 acres in lots kept for grazing,) will make seven hundred acres for cultivation, and two hundred acres for pasture, exclusive of the reclaimed land. I now expect to begin to reap the full benefit of my system of cultivation. The first four hundred acres may be considered as permanently improved, and the recent addition from the former pasture in a fair way of improvement, as it is well taken with clover, and the whole crops ought now to increase every year.

Since 1825, we have mowed very little clover, as the cultivation and other labors of the reclaimed swamp have left but little time for hay-making. Consequently, nearly all the clover has been ploughed in to improve the soil.

In addition to the results above stated, I will now give my reasons for thinking the four shift system the best for our James River lands.

In the first place, one of the objects of the Virginia farmer should be, to make as much as possible for each hand employed, as labor is much dearer than land in this country, and he cannot make a full profit to the hand without cultivating a tolerably large surface, which the four shift system enables him to do.

Secondly, no farmer can improve his land or keep up its fertility, without a great deal of manure, and that manure cannot be made without a great deal of offal, of which to make it. The four shifts, with the standing pasture, give him more offal than any other system. The standing pasture supports stock enough through the summer, without grazing his clover fields, to convert his offal into manure during winter; and it is all important in this system not to graze your clover fields which are to be fallowed, so as to have a heavy clover lay to turn under, to restore the land after the three successive grain crops, as well as to make a good crop of wheat the ensuing year.

In the third place, it is my opinion that the more frequently you plough up your land, provided you turn under manure, or a good lay of some kind, [clover is the best,] the faster you improve it; and there is no system in which you can make so much manure, or so often turn under the clover lay as in this.

While on the subject of manures, I will digress a little to mention some few experiments I have made; and will first state, that it is of very little consequence, in my opinion, how you use your manure, provided you really do use it. The great art is to make it, and that in large quantities. It is like money; any one can spend it, but few can, or rather will, make it, in any quantity.

In the spring of 1828, I made the following experiment. My farm manure, which I generally apply by ploughing in with the clover fallow in the fall, just before sowing wheat, was divided into four parts, one of which was hauled out early in April, and ploughed in—a second part was hauled out, and used as a top-dressing on the clover, which was backward and unpromising—a third was hauled out and left in heaps, each heap a wagon load, and well covered with earth until the fall, and then ploughed in just before sowing wheat; and the fourth was left in the farm yard, as usual with me, until the fall, and then hauled out, and ploughed in, just before sowing wheat. The top dressing produced the best wheat—that which was left in the farm yard until the fall, the next—and that which was ploughed under in April, the worst. But in the crops since that time, there has been no difference visible, and all the pieces of land are very much improved; so that I am of the opinion stated before, that it is of little consequence how you use manure, so that it is really used—and that it is spread well over the surface, which is very important. There is one exception to the above opinion, if it could be practised—but I have never seen the farmer in our climate in the lower country who could. I allude to the winter top dressing of wheat, which is certainly the quickest in effect, and the most permanent in duration; but we can never use it in that way to any extent in our climate, for several reasons. Our winters are so short, and the ground so rarely hard frozen enough to haul upon, that it is impossible to do much at this kind of work. We are compelled to bed and furrow our land from one end to the other, and if heavy wagons were to run upon it in our wet winters, and they are always wet, both the land and wheat would be ruined. But I have not the least doubt, if it could be effected, that it is the very best way of using manure. If done early after sowing wheat, it improves the wheat very much, and it insures a heavy crop of clover after wheat, for it protects the clover from the spring frosts, and enables you to sow your clover seed early, which

is very important on weak land; and then in the summer, it protects the young clover from our hot sun and great draughts which we frequently have. I consider a good crop of clover as equal to two manure rings, and it is that which makes the top dressing in winter so durable, because it secures the clover. I top dress a little, though very little, every winter, and I am sure that I can go now and point out every spot that has been done so for the last ten years, so permanent is this way of manuring. There is frequently great waste of manure from applying too much to the acre. The object of a farmer should be to cover a large surface with his manure, just applying enough to make the clover take well, and by plastering his clover he will have the best possible manure in a clover lay. My practice is to put twenty-two good wagon loads of stable manure to the acre, and thirty very heavy wagon loads of farm manure to the acre; as that is very inferior to the stable manure, and in that manner I get over about 50 acres of land per annum.

I will now return to the reasoning on the four shift system. In the fourth place, our lands are very liable to weeds of every kind, to onions, blue grass, wire grass, partridge pea, and many others, so that they require a spring hoe crop very frequently to keep them clean; the four shift system, with corn every fourth year, will do that very effectually. I have tried the oat crop instead of the corn crop as a cleanser, but it will not answer. The oat crop is an effectual cleanser of onions for the time being, that is to say your crop of wheat for two or three years after the oats will be perfectly free from onions, but they will return after a while, if you stop the oat system. But the oats do not in the least prevent the growth of blue grass, wire grass, or partridge pea, and a hoe crop is the only remedy. I shall now be compelled, to my sorrow, to abandon oats as a cleanser, and substitute the corn crop, so foul has my land become of every thing except the onion, which the oat crop has kept under. I have this year lost one-third of my wheat by blue grass. I consider the oat crop if a heavy one, fully as exhausting as the corn crop; and I do not regret being obliged to abandon it and take up the corn crop, on that account, but I regret it on account of the onion, of which the corn crop is not half so good a cleanser; and, besides, I shall find it too laborious to cultivate one-fourth of my land in corn, in addition to my swamp land: but it must be done—there is no alternative, for the blue grass must be checked.

The fifth and last reason in favour of the four shift system, with standing pasture, is, that it requires less fencing than any other. You may have your four fields either under one fence or divided into two equal divisions, with a fence to each, which is the most convenient, as you may then occasionally graze your fields, when it will be the least injurious.\* It will be found that the non-grazing system will not do altogether; for, after a while the land becomes too much puffed up, and too full of vegetable matter, to make a good crop of wheat. That may be remedied though, by grazing immediately after hauling off your wheat every year: and provided you take your cattle off whenever the ground is too wet it does not injure the young clover in the least, but rather benefits it for clover; like wheat, requires the hoof on the land occasionally, or the land becomes too porous and puffed up by the vegetable matter; and besides, the young clover is very much protected by the growth of weeds, which require breaking and trampling down. You may graze your fields from which you have taken your wheat, until you put your cattle up into winter quarters, with the foregoing precaution in wet weather. But never suffer any thing to run on your clover field the year you expect to follow it. It is that which I have heretofore spoken of as so objectionable.

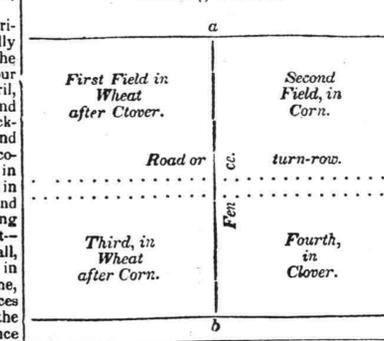
I have frequently remarked that a field of clover which was grazed moderately while young, [from the time the wheat was taken off until the time to put cattle up into winter quarters,] would take a much earlier start the next spring than one which had not been grazed, owing to the weeds in the latter case choking up and keeping back the young clover.

The standing pasture may be made of the most inferior land on the farm, which will, in the course of some years, be very much improved by it; or, you may convert your woods into a standing pasture by enclosing them, and clearing up the undergrowth, &c.; and frequently on farms there are swamps, marshes, or strips of lands that cannot be cultivated, which make very good standing pastures; so that, in the two last cases, you have all your cleared land to cultivate. One of the strongest proofs of the superiority of the four shift system is, that my friend Selden of Westover, who has adopted it, now makes double as large crops as his predecessors did, and has put entirely a different face on the land: though he would make good crops under any system, for he is a first-rate farmer.

#### HILL CARTER.

\*By the following diagram it may be seen, that if the four fields can be laid off by two lines intersecting near the middle of the cultivated land, the half on the left, and that on the right, will alternately be in wheat, and therefore that a single dividing fence, (a, b) will suffice to permit half the land to be grazed, after it is cleared of the crop of wheat.

#### Standing Pasture.



The population of the United States.—The Boston Journal has some interesting suggestions on this subject, derived from the last Quarterly Register.

The greatest population to a square mile is in the District of Columbia, where it is 393; in Connecticut, 63; in Rhode Island, 72; Massachusetts 81; Maryland and New Jersey, 40; Ohio, 24; New York 41; Pennsylvania, 30.

The population of New York in 1840, it is supposed will be 2,500,000, or 200,000 more than that of all New England, and about equal to that of all the North Western Territories. That of Pennsylvania is rated at 1,700,000; of Ohio 1,300,000. That of Virginia is put at a few thousand more. And thus the oldest settled of the States, which in 1790, had a population of 747,000, will have been overtaken by a State which had no government of any kind until one year before that date, did not become a State until 1802, and had in 1790, a population of only 3000. Indeed, Ohio has the resources within itself

for growing into the greatest State of the Union. It can support, without difficulty, a people as dense as that of Holland.

Ohio contains but 39,000 square miles, while Virginia contains 64,000 which is within 1000 of the whole area of New England, and makes Virginia the largest as well as oldest State. The next in order is Georgia 62,000, and Missouri 60,000. Illinois contains 55,000, Florida 50,000, New York, 46,000, Pennsylvania 44,000, North Carolina and Louisiana 48,000 each. Delaware contains 6100, and Rhode Island 1350.

The most rapid increase of population we observe is in the case of Ohio, which increased from 3000 to 45,000 in ten years, and in the next ten to 230,000.—This last was at the rate of 409 per cent. in ten years, whereas the average rate of the whole Union for the last ten has been but 33 per cent. and that of New England but a little less than 19. That of New York was never greater than 72 of Maine, 68, Indiana, 194, Illinois, 350, Indiana, 500, Michigan, 764, Arkansas, 1344. The most rapid increase, has, of course, been in the early settlements.

The population of the United States in 1840 is rated at 17 millions. What it will be a hundred years hence, it is not easy to calculate. What it may be, however, is inferable from the fact that our territory is immensely extensive; that a vast amount of rich land is yet unoccupied; that lands now cultivated may be made vastly more productive; that a large portion of our country is under tropical climates, and that if the whole country should support but 230 inhabitants to a square mile, as England now does, we should have, as the Editor of the Register observes, more than four hundred and fifty millions.

#### SUMMARY STATISTICAL REPORT

Of the Presbyterian Church in the United States of America, for 1833.

This portion of the Catholic Church of Christ in the world, under one General Assembly of Bishops and Ruling Elders, styled Commissioners, which, with the Delegates, from Corresponding bodies, in May last, consisted of two hundred and seventy four persons, comprehends, according to the returns now in my possession, twenty-two Synods; one hundred and eleven Presbyteries; eighteen hundred and fifty-five ordained Bishops; two hundred and fifteen Licentiate, making two thousand and seventy Preachers of the Gospel; two hundred and twenty nine Candidates in a state of preparation for the ministry; twenty-five hundred churches; and two hundred and thirty-three thousand five hundred and eighty Communicants. Our INCREASE during the last year was in Bishops one hundred and twenty-five, in Licentiate ten, in Candidates nine, in ordained and licensed Preachers one hundred and thirty-five, in Churches one hundred and nineteen, and in Communicants sixteen thousand two hundred and forty-two. The Communicants added on examination last year were twenty three thousand five hundred and forty-six; being ten thousand six hundred and fourteen less than were reported in 1832 as added in the same way. Seven thousand two hundred and fifty-two were added last year by certificate from other churches, or passed from one of our congregations to another, being three hundred and sixty-six more than were received in the same manner the year previous. The total additions now reported is thirty thousand seven hundred and ninety-eight. Of these fourteen thousand five hundred and fifty-six must be considered as equal to the number of persons who have deceased or been dismissed or suspended, or who were at the time of making the reports in a state of transition from the care of one session to another, or who for some reason have not been reported as members: leaving as above stated the net gain of communicants of 1833 over the whole number of 1832 at sixteen thousand two hundred and forty-two. The baptisms now returned amount to twenty one thousand eight hundred and twenty; of which six thousand nine hundred and fifty were of adults, fourteen thousand and thirty-five infants, and eight hundred and thirty five persons not distinguished. The baptisms of 1832 exceeded those of 1833 by two thousand eight hundred and eighty-three. The funds reported as having been collected in the year preceding the meeting of the last General Assembly were, for missionary purposes, seventy six thousand four hundred and twenty dollars and thirty nine cents; for defraying the expenses of Commissioners to the Assembly, four thousand six hundred eighty nine dollars and fifty eight cents; for different Theological Seminaries six thousand three hundred eleven dollars and twenty-three cents; for the Education of poor and pious youth, principally with reference to their becoming ministers of the gospel, forty seven thousand one hundred fifty three dollars and sixty-five cents; and for the Contingent Expenses of the Assembly, eight hundred ninety-two dollars and eighty-seven cents; which give a total of one hundred thirty-five thousand four hundred sixty seven dollars and seventy-two cents collected for charitable uses. This sum is less than the total for the same objects in 1832 by two thousand three hundred fifty one dollars and sixty seven cents. Eleven Presbyteries have made no returns of any collections; and four have reported only on the Commissioners' Fund. In all the Presbyteries there are several churches which have made no reports on any subject, for sometime past; and some which have never returned so much as the number of their communicants since I have been Stated Clerk. Our statistics, however are much more complete than they formerly were; and must be regarded as a near approximation to an exact statement of the numbers and operations of our whole body.

With lamentation that if should be necessary, we state the fact of the suspension of three of our ministers during the last year; two of them for intemperance in drink; and one for heresy in doctrine. The foregoing is a true summary, (E. E.) prepared by me this 31st day of July 1833.

#### EZRA STILES ELY,

Stated Clerk of the General Assembly.

A part of Missouri has been severely visited. The latest accounts are truly melancholy.

St. CHARLES, Missouri, July 30, 1833.

July 1833, has been to St. Charles a distressing month. Till then the Cholera delayed its approach, but only delayed to strike more heavily; nor has it come alone. Its companion, if possible, more stubborn and fatal than itself. It is the congestive fever. How many have been attacked no one can tell—There is scarce a single family in the village, or three miles around it, which is at present exempt from disease. It is an ordinary occurrence to see every member of the family stretched upon the floor in one room sick. A number have died for want of medical aid. Had it not been for the providential arrival of several physicians from other places, the distress would have been incalculable. It will be several years I fear before we among whom were our best inhabitants have lost many, among whom within four weeks past, the number of 60. The temperate, the cleanly, and the excellent have been taken away. The intemperate have scarce been touched. The most prominent individuals are—

Mr. O. Knott, J. D. Williams, Mr. Chatoya, Sr. Isaac Chatoya, Charles Chatoya, Mrs. Dr. Wilson, Mrs. Lilly, Mrs. Harbord, Mrs. O. Machett, Mrs.

Woods, Mrs. Simons, Mrs. Tayon, Madam Batchie and three children, Mr. Berdeau, Mrs. Conn and child, Mrs. Janis, Mrs. A. Janis, of cholera.

Rev. Thomas R. Rufec, Mr. Stewart, Mr. Smith, Mr. Knight, Mrs. J. Beachamp, Miss Kelly, Mrs. Paulina C. Campell, Mrs. Machett, aged 70, Mrs. Knight and infant, of fever.

At present our village is nearly deserted—it is difficult to get any thing to eat—nothing is doing, except dealing in medicine.—We have no idea when the scourge will be removed. Soon, however, there will be none left upon whom to spend its fury. In the Catholic burying ground there are between 40 and 50 new graves—Protestant, about 20. It is perhaps remarkable, that only two negroes have died during the whole month. I do not pretend to give you half the names. In the town alone 12 families are completely broken up. On Sunday last there were four burials in the Catholic burying ground. The atmosphere is so strongly impregnated with disease, that you may literally smell death in the streets. Some years ago a case was sent to an eminent lawyer for an opinion. The case stated was the most preposterous and improbable that had ever occurred to the mind of man, and concluded by asking, whether under such circumstances an action would lie? He took his pen and wrote, 'Yes, if the witnesses will lie too, but not otherwise.'

A late number of the Edinburgh Evening Courant has the following article:

Extraordinary Occurrence.—On Thursday, while Mr. Montgomery, a banker, in Irvine, and another gentleman were fishing in the river Garnock, they were struck with the appearance of a whirlpool in the centre of the river, which appeared as if the waters were rapidly descending into the earth. They immediately concluded that the bed of the river had given way and that the waters were descending into the colliers beneath, and hastened to the nearest pit's mouth to give an alarm.

The men below soon heard the mighty rushing of the waters, and hastened to escape, which providentially they all effected, though about a moment to spare, several of them being up to their necks in water. The water continued to pour into the extensive cavities beneath, and the next day a tremendously large space broke down, into which the whole river descended, leaving its bed quite dry for the space of a mile on each side of the aperture where it had previously been full six feet deep. On the flowing of the tide the depth of the water below the chasm increased to nine feet; the desolation was awful. The water still rushed in a torrent into the earth. Three men in a boat had an almost miraculous escape from being sucked into the vortex; they had no sooner got out than the boat was drawn down with fearful rapidity.

The great body of water continued to pour down till the whole workings which extended many miles, were completely filled. A new scene of terror now presented itself—the imprisoned air, pressed by the weight of water, burst through the surface of the earth in a thousand places, which, for the extent of many acres, presented the appearance of a boiling caldron. Immense quantities of sand and water were thrown up, and descended like torrents of rain for many hours. By this calamity six hundred persons are thrown out of employ; and so extensive is the destruction as to preclude the hope that the works are ever to be restored to their former state.

Difficulties of Commerce.—The discharging of the cargo of the ship Globe, Capt. Dixey, from Canton, has been interrupted, by information said to have been sent from Boston, from an attempt made to smuggle sewing silks, in tea boxes. The inspectors of the custom house, of this port, acting under the instructions of the surveyor, considered themselves bound to bore the envelopes, greatly to the injury of the tea and boxes. A conference of the consignees with the surveyor, was held this morning, the result of which we have not learned. This proceeding, with an officer who has been so long in trade as Capt. Dixey, and whose integrity has never been questioned, is regarded as not a little singular.—*Phild. Gaz.*

A question of some interest to merchants and ship owners, will arise in closing the business of the British ship Ulster, wrecked off Long Beach a few days since. The spars, rigging, cables, &c. of the ship, which were saved by the exertions of the Wreck Master, were disposed of by the Custom House officer, at Tuckerston who sold them free of duty and all other incumbrances. Most of the articles were purchased by gentlemen of this city, at that time on Long Beach. A great portion of them were sent to this city, in the sloop De Witt Clinton, which arrived yesterday. The facts being made known to the Custom House officers, the rigging, sails, &c. were seized for duty, the articles being regarded as regular importations, and of course subject to duty. The purchasers of the articles resist this exaction.—*Id.*

A SPANISH WIFE.—A female of Puertoblanco, (La Mancha,) shortly after retiring to rest with her husband, plunged a poniard into his breast, and then getting up, she ran out crying that her husband had committed suicide. But the husband had time to declare that his wife had been the murderer.

Corns.—Nearly nine tenths of mankind are troubled with corns, a disease that is seldom or never occasioned but by tight shoes. All methods of extracting corns seem but to afford temporary relief, and never will be attended with complete success unless attention be paid to the shoes. It is very dangerous to cut corns too deep, on account of the multiplicity of nerves running in every direction of the toes. Easy shoes, frequent bathings of the feet in lukewarm water, with a little salt and potash dissolved in it, and a plaster made of equal parts of gumgalbanum, saffron and camphor are the best remedies that can be recommended against this troublesome complaint. The union is produced by the same cause as the corn—the irritation of which, namely, pressure, being extended to the cellular substance, occasions thickening of it with effusion. The treatment recommended for corns will succeed in case of bunions, but in consequence of the greater extension of the disease the cure of course is more tedious.

#### Toilette of Health, Beauty, &c.

ORCHARDS.—Among the fairest objects on which the eye rests are the orchards which spread round the husbandman's home, whether we contemplate them when covered with many scented flowers and full of rich perfumes, the songs of birds and the hum of bees, or in the autumnal stillness with the branches bending with rosy-cheeked fruits. But we do not dignify with the name of orchards those collections of dead brush and gnarled trees where the pruning saw has always been a stranger, and the skill of the cultivator has had no intercourse.