

THE RALEIGH STAR AND NORTH CAROLINA GAZETTE.

THOS. J. LEMAY, EDITOR AND PROPRIETOR.

"NORTH CAROLINA—POWERFUL IN MORAL, INTELLECTUAL AND PHYSICAL RESOURCES—THE LAND OF OUR HEROES AND THE HOME OF OUR AFFECTIONS."

[THREE DOLLARS A YEAR—IN ADVANCE]

VOL. 38.

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No. 43

Incombustible Wash.—Slake stons lime in a large tub or barrel, with boiling water, covering the tub or barrel, to keep in all the steam. When thus slaked, pass six quarts of it through a fine sieve. It will then be in a state of fine flour. Now, to six quarts of this lime, add one quart of rock or Turk's Island salt, and one gallon of water, then boil the mixture and skim it clean. To every five gallons of this skimmed mixture, add one pound of alum, half pound of coppers, by slow degrees add three-fourths of a pound of potash, and four quarts of fine sand or hickory ashes sifted. We suppose any kind of good hard wood ashes will answer as well as hickory. This mixture will now admit of any coloring matter you please, and may be applied with a brush. It cooks better than paint, and is as durable as slate. It will stop small leaks in the roof, prevent the moss from growing over and rotting the wood, and render it incombustible from sparks falling upon it. When laid upon brick work it renders the brick impervious to rain or wet.

Farmers' Register.

Killing Sheep.—Elijah M. Davis, White Plains, N. Y., says if bells are put on one or two sheep in a flock, it will prevent dogs killing them. "Before I put bells on my sheep," says he, "I was considerably troubled with dogs; but since I belled them I have not been troubled at all, while some of my neighbors who did not use the same precaution, have suffered more or less. A sheep killing dog is a sneaking creature, and when they start up the sheep, bells make a noise and the dogs sneak off. If the sheep are within a half a mile of the farmer's house the bells will give the alarm."

Hogs in Ohio.—By a census of the swinish multitude in Ohio, published in the Cincinnati Atlas, it appears that that species of population is increasing at the west quite as fast as that of the bipeds. The whole number of hogs in Ohio is now but little short of 2,000,000.

The following are a few among many instances of profitable cows, an account of which is given in the Springfield, Mass. Republican: "The famous Oakes cow, owned in Danvers in this State, may be mentioned as very remarkable; she produced 19½ lbs. of butter in a week. In 1846 her butter was 48½ lbs. She was allowed 30 to 35 bushels of Indian meal a year; she had also potatoes and carrots at times.

A cow owned in Andover, 1836, yielded \$67 38 from the market, besides the supply of the family. The keeping was good pasture, the swill of the house, and three pints of meal a day.

A cow owned by Thomas Hodges, in North Adams, produced in 1840, 425 lbs. of butter. Her feed was one quart of rye meal and half a peck of potatoes, besides very good pasturing.

A cow owned by S. Henshaw, formerly of Chicopee Falls, gave 17½ lbs. of butter a week, and in one case 24 lbs. This was a native without any mixture.

A cow in West Springfield is recorded as having given in 60 days 2,692½ lbs. of milk which is equal to 22½ quarts daily.

A cow, owned by O. B. Morris, of Springfield some weeks afforded 14 lbs. of butter, besides milk and cream for family. Her feed in winter was good hay, and from 1 to 4 quarts of rye brand at night. Judge remarks, in the account of this cow, that "many cows, which have been considered as quite ordinary might by kind and regular treatment, good and regular feeding, and proper care in milking, rank among the first rate."

J. P. Cushing, of Watertown, has several native cows which give 20 quarts a day.

Dr. Shurtleff, of Chelsea, owned a small cow which gave 21 quarts daily. The Hobart Clark cow at Andover gave 14 lbs. of butter a week.

POUDRETTE.
Buy a barrel of coarse, cheap Sulphate of Iron—for \$1.50 to \$2.00—make a solution of a pound of it in one first breaking, or adding the lumps; and dissolve as much water, as will leave a small portion of it undissolved, in

order to ensure a strong solution; keep in the privy, a large size garden watering pot, filled with this solution—and use it occasionally—once or twice a week, to disinfect the premises—which it will do, most effectually.

By means of a small coach—as I call it—with four wheels and a tongue, with a cross bar at the end of it, and of cheap construction, the materials disinfected, may be conveniently saved and transported to a repository, prepared by a stratum of earth, the drier, and richer, the better. On which, place the materials, sprinkling over them, more of the solution with the watering pot, till the pungent odor is neutralised and destroyed, and it retains only the dull, faint odor of wetted clay. Add another stratum of dry earth—and so alternating, to a convenient height.

When the compost has become sufficiently dry, during the process, as well as after it, it should be well shovelled up, to incorporate the contents, and it is then fit for use.

From the Maine Cultivator. MANAGEMENT OF PASTURE LAND

This is a matter of great importance to the husbandman, and, indeed, may be considered as reposing at the very foundation of his success. We do not however, know that any experiments have as yet been made in this region calculated to test the utility of the system we are about to recommend; but we nevertheless feel fully persuaded in our own mind, that it cannot, if properly and systematically pursued, be followed by other than the best results. Every observing agriculturist has doubtless become convinced that no process for enriching lands is more successful than that of "turning them out to pasture;" & that fields thus treated for a series of ten or twelve years, are thereby, liberally endowed with the principles of vegetable fertility, and rendered competent to produce as bountifully, corn, rye, oats, grass, &c., as when in their virgin state.

This, indeed, is the ordinary result of the system when thoroughly carried out, and in short we are not at present aware of a single instance in which lands that have been depastured for a series of years no matter how closely they may have been cropped, have been deteriorated, or made worse. On the contrary we can point to several farms on which comparatively worn and worthless fields, and from which all the skill and industry of the owner were insufficient to secure a remunerating crop, have been thoroughly regenerated and restored to their original state of productiveness in the space of a very few years, simply by this plan.

So plentiful, indeed, is the persuasion of its great utility in restoring exhausted soils in many parts of our land, and those principally the most enlightened, that it is at present almost the only remedy applied. No sooner indeed, does a soil which has been exhausted and rendered barren by excessive cropping, fail to produce a remunerating crop, than it is "turned out to pasture;" and in this condition it is permitted to remain until it has fully re-acquired the vegetative or productive powers and energy of which it has been deprived. Thus far, most assuredly, the practice is judicious. To cultivate a field year after year, reaping therefrom only vexation and disappointment is a curse worse if possible than that which the gods bestowed on the unfortunate but erring Tantalus. But when from this safe position we advance another step, and behold the good work thus auspiciously and promisingly commenced, we find unfortunately nothing, or at most exceedingly little in its details to recommend.

Almost the first act with every agriculturist, after having thus re-possessed himself of a portion of valuable soil, is to re-adopt precisely the same system of management, in cropping, by which it was originally rendered emasculate and poor.

Instead of husbanding the vegetative power he has thus attained, he goes directly to work to dissipate it, and too often in such a way as to prevent the possibility of receiving any important or lasting benefit in return. Now the process we would suggest, is this: In most parts of our country, the farmer who possesses a "FLAY FARM,"

and whose habits are those of industry and economy, can "live." All that to us appears essentially requisite under such circumstances is, to depasture the poor, worn out and exhausted fields until they have thoroughly reacquired their former healthy and vigorous tone, and then, without the intervention of any emasculating crop whatever, to sow down to grass. The period for ploughing should be that portion of the vegetable year when vegetation is in its greatest vigor, say from the last of June to the middle of July, although from experiments recently made, we should recommend sowing the grass seed the subsequent spring, in preference to sowing it in the fall. If the land is naturally poor and weak, and has been pastured but a few seasons, the plough should be introduced earlier, and buckwheat, peas, or some other succulent crop sown to be turned in green. But in no case should a ripe crop be taken, nor should the youthful grass be "fed," until it has had time to radiate properly, if at all. In ploughing, care should also be had that the plough run deep, turning up, if practicable, some of the subsoil in order completely to inhume whatever of soluble matter there may exist on the surface, as well as to furnish a proper and congenial bed for the expansion of the nascent roots.

Lands managed in this way would doubtless produce bountifully for four or five years, when they should be again sowed down to grass, as before. Four years is sufficiently long to crop any soil in grass unless the inevitable exhaustion occasioned by the maturation of the crop be counteracted by the application of invigorating manures. Long cropping and close feeding in the fall and spring, without liberal dressing, will infallibly ensure short crops, an inadequate return for the outlays of cultivation, and poverty in the end!

Reader! this is "book farming!" What think you on't? Have we presented you with a plausible theory? We claim no laurel wreath as a reward for what we have done, nor do we aspire to be appellation the Cereops in this department of our favorite art; but should there be anything in the suggestions herein presented that appears reasonable, and in conformity with the principles of that general and universal analogy from which all rational men reason, or should reason, we hope and trust that it will be candidly acknowledged and adopted. However inveterate may be your prejudices against book farming, as it is ignominiously called, one great and startling truth is clearly apparent—we must either renounce our former mill-horse course of trudging blindfold through the routine of those ancient customs and traditional usages which have been so long and fatally perpetuated from father to son, or renounce our farms!—There is no alternative. In our system of cultivation, we have outraged every principle of nature, and we must now adopt a new one; not however, immediately and at once, but by degrees, fast as the architect proceeds in the reparation of a time worn edifice, rejecting what is worthless and unsound in its structure and composition, but retaining and improving, if possible, that which is sound and good.

The above plan has been tested and found good.

IMPROVED OX YOKE.
The Massachusetts Ploughman thus describes the first improved Ox Yoke heard of during the last hundred years. It is in use in Seabrook and found to be of great advantage to the farmer:
The bows go through a slide which is fitted to a mortice in the Yoke which is made 3 or 4 inches longer than the slide, making it changeable, or 8 inches, which makes the difference between a long and a short Yoke. The mortice is made an inch wider at the bottom than the top, a groove in the center, half an inch each side for the slide to rest upon, an iron bolt at each end of the mortice and one in the center, which goes through a mortice in the slide and preserves the requisite strength. The slide is regulated by an iron hump attached to it and enters holes in the Yoke half an inch apart, which makes it easily fitted to any yoke of cattle from a long to a short, and to give the advantage to either ox or mule half an inch to 5 or 8.

FOOD FOR MILCH COWS.
At a large milk establishment near Newcastle, England, the cows are fed in the following manner: 91 pounds of clover hay, cut or chopped—168 lbs. brewer's grains, 12 lbs. ground flax seed, 2 lbs. salt, are mixed together, and equally divided as the daily food for twelve cows. The hay, after having been cut, is put into the mash tub and scalded with boiling water. The other articles are then mixed with it. It is stated that a good cow thus fed will yield an average of fourteen quarts of milk per day, for eight months in succession.—The owner of the establishment, Mr. Arundale, stated that he had one cow which had not had a calf for two years and a half, that was giving an average of eight quarts per day. A great point observed is, that the cows never fall off in condition.—Cultivator.

Fat Animals and Large Crops result alike from abundance of Proper Food.—The profits of crops, as well as cattle, depend mainly upon the return they make for the food and labour bestowed upon them. The man who grows a hundred bushels of corn, or makes a hundred pounds of meat, with the same means and labour that his neighbour expends to obtain fifty bushels or fifty pounds, has a manifest advantage; and while the latter merely lives, the former, if prudent, must grow rich. He gains the entire value of the extra fifty bushels or fifty pounds. This disparity in the profits of agricultural labour, and expenditure, is not a visionary speculation—it is a mat-

ter of fact, which is seen verified in almost every town. We see one farmer raise 80 bushels of corn on an acre of land, with the same labour, but with more foresight in keeping his land in good till, and feeding better his crop, than his neighbour employs upon an acre, and who does not get 40 or even 30 bushels. This difference results from the manner of feeding and tending the crop.

METHOD OF GROWING LARGE WATER MELONS.

In the proceedings of the N. Y. Farmers' club we find the following plan for growing watermelons: Make the hills 2 feet high, 6 feet in diameter, place a barrel on the top in the centre of each hill, and fill it with good manure. Plant melon seed all around on the outside of the barrel. Every morning pour a bucket of water into the barrel. When the vines have grown eight feet in length, cover the ends over with soil. Melons thus cultivated come to maturity three weeks earlier than when cultivated in the ordinary way, and are frequently grown to weigh 40 lbs. each.

This plan is, of course, not calculated for extensive, but for garden culture, and we doubt not will answer well where one only desires to raise a supply for family use. In addition to the manure in the barrel, we would apply a mixture of a gill of ashes, and the same quantity of plaster, to each vine, applying the same on the earth, at the time of the plants coming up.

TO DESTROY WORMS.

Old lands, particularly gardens that have been made rich, and have been long under cultivation, abound in worms and insects, that are very destructive to tender plants. Ashes, lime, soot and guano, are good to destroy insects, and they are all good as manure.

HONEY IN POLAND.

There are some farmers who collect annually more than 200 barrels of fine honey, each barrel weighing from 400 to 500 pounds, exclusive of the wax.

A tenant is often enabled to pay his rent and taxes, to defray other domestic expenses, and often to accumulate handsome dowries for his daughters, from the proceeds of his honey.

APPLE ORCHARD.

The N. H. Statesman says that Mr. Joseph Robinson of Chester, Ohio, has an apple orchard, planted and raised by himself, covering but two acres of land, the produce of which this year is nine hundred bushels exclusive of a second picking of inferior quality. Mr. R. has sold four hundred bushels for cash down, at \$1.00 per bushel—reserving five hundred bushels for a future sale. The entire income this year will not be below \$1000, and all at far less labor than is bestowed upon a small farm.

It is stated in one of the Ohio papers, that peaches were produced at the recent Fair of the Columbus Horticultural Society, measuring more than a foot in circumference, and weighing 14 ounces.

WATERMELONS.

Watermelons are now raised in almost every town. We see one farmer raise 80 bushels of corn on an acre of land, with the same labour, but with more foresight in keeping his land in good till, and feeding better his crop, than his neighbour employs upon an acre, and who does not get 40 or even 30 bushels. This difference results from the manner of feeding and tending the crop.

IRON FENCE.
Iron wire is now used in the construction of fences, and the Westminister (Md.) Carolinian gives the following description of the manner of its application to this purpose:
"The posts are about one half the ordinary size, planted, firmly at the distance of ten feet apart, with nine strands of wire drawn tightly through an half-inch auger hole, and tightly plugged at each hole; the wire is of the size of that used for the handle of the Yankee bucket, and to combine them more firm, wire of lighter description is wound through the middle, which prevents the hogs from separating and creeping through. The whole expense of this fence does not exceed twenty-five cents per pannel of ten feet; and for neatness and durability, cannot be surpassed by any thing in timber."
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