

THE NEW ERA.

ROBINSON, MURPHY & CO.,
EDITORS AND PROPRIETORS.

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SELECTED POETRY.

From the Ohio Farmer.

A VISION.

By W. H. TAYLOR.

On a mountain I sat whose summit rose high
At its foot ran a river, o'er its head bent the sky,
And flow'rets were bending,
That clear river o'er,
And wavelets were sending
Their kisses ashore;
And thrushes were ringing
Their love through the trees,
And the river was "singing
Itself to the seas;"
And odors were gushing
From the buds of the thorn,
And the east was all blushing
With the crimson of morn.

Then I looked far away up that beautiful river,
Till I saw from the highlands a thousand rills quiver,

And they merrily leaped
Till they mingling fell,
In the arms of that river
In a beautiful dell;
In rapture I followed
The waters along,
In their beauty and gladness,
Their freedom and song.
And my heart followed on
With a gladsome emotion,
Till they sank with sighs,
In a fathomless ocean.

And while I sat musing a visitor came,
With the form of an angel—but told not her name,
"Wouldst of the vision?"

She sweetly enquired—
And I knew by her tongue,
She was surely inspired,
"The rill that thou see'st
Descending the mountain,
Are the emblems of youth,
From life's sparkling fountain;
And the broad river flowing
In glory and power,
A picture of manhood
In his loftiest hour."

A vision of life! I exclaimed with emotion,
And the sea where it falls, is Eternity's Ocean.

OLD FRIENDS MET TOGETHER.

Oh, time is sweet, when roses meet,
With Spring's sweet breath around them,
And sweet the cost, when hearts are lost,
If those we love have found them!
And sweet the mind that still can find
A star in darkest weather,
But sought can be so sweet to see
As old friends met together.

Opinion of old, when old is old,
Knowing old, when old is new,
The grey east, the weather,
For age brings, a guest to see
Yet sought not together.

As old friends met together,
The few long known, that years have shown,
With hearts that friendship blesses;
A hand to cheer, purchase a tear,
To soothe a friend's distresses!
That helped and tried—still, side by side—
A friend, to face hard weather—
Oh, thus may we yet joy to see,
And meet old friends together!

AGRICULTURAL.

From the American Farmer.
AS TO THE PROPER APPLICATION OF MANURE.

TARBORO', N. C., Nov. 15, 1852.
DEAR SIR:—Allow me to trouble you with a few questions upon a subject which is just now attracting considerable attention among the planters of this region—

1. Which is the better mode of applying manure, broadcast, or in the drill?

2. What is the custom in the highly cultivated countries of the old world?

3. What is the custom in the New-England States? What is the custom in the Middle States?

Your attention to these queries is respectfully requested, at an early date. PANOLA, JR.

Replies by the Editor.

1. If the general improvement of the soil be the object, which ought to be the object with every good farmer, there can be no question but that broadcast manuring, is infinitely preferable to manuring in the drill or hill. If the crop to be grown be corn, broadcast manuring is the best, and for the following reasons:—The lateral roots of the corn extend from row to row across the entire ends of such lateral roots, so that they can derive but little, if any benefit, from manure placed in the hill or drill; when such roots extend beyond the limits of such places of deposit, they are cut off from the sources of mineral supply. But if the manure be equally distributed throughout the soil, whether the roots may travel, or whithersoever they may extend, they come in contact with food, and thus to mature the grain. Manure placed in the hill or drill, in the first stages of the growth of the corn plant, exert a happy influence in urging forth their growth; but, as we have just stated, whenever the roots expand beyond the range of manure thus partially supplied, they are out of the reach of the manure intended to nurture them, their mouths being greatly beyond the places of deposit.

If potatoes, turnips, carrots and parsnips, be the crops cultivated, and they be cultivated in drills, the drills are the proper places for manure, as the lateral roots of these crops do not reach much, if any, beyond the limits of the drills, and their mouths will always be within the range of the

drills.

2. In England, where the drill culture is most practised, the manure is deposited in the drills. There the turnip is to her farmers, what the corn crop is to us; but as the roots of the turnip do not extend as do those of the corn, some three or four feet, there is no analogy whatsoever between the practice of the two countries. In England, too, they apply the manure in the drills, man-

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DEVOTED TO THE INTERESTS OF EDUCATION, AGRICULTURE, AND THE MECHANIC ARTS—INDEPENDENT IN POLITICS AND RELIGION.

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gold wurtzel, &c. But though they there naturally in the drills to these crops, almost universally, so far as the culture of the turnips are concerned, the land may be said to be broadcast manured also; for the turnips are eaten off the ground in *hurds* by the sheep, which in dropping the manure, may be said to do so by the broadcast plan. Turnips precede wheat, so that this latter crop may be said to be manured both broadcast and in the drills; broadcast by the sheep, and in the drills at the time of sowing. Indeed, the manure given to the turnips may be said to be broadcasted also, as the drills being but from 9 to 12 inches apart, the process of cross-ploughing effects a very general distribution of the manure throughout the soil.

3. The farmers of New-England vary in their methods of applying their manure, as well as the farmers of other States; some apply it broadcast others in the hill. But then they tend but a few acres, compared with the farmers and planters of the Middle and Southern States, and are, therefore, enabled to give much more manure to their crops than those of the latter States. Some corn growers in New-England, manure both broadcast and in the hill, for corn—as we would always do—first, to secure general fertility to the soil, and secondly, to urge forward the growth of the plants when young.

From the Charleston Mercury
GYPSUM AS A FERTILIZER.

GREENWOOD, Jan. 20, 1853.

Dear Sir: Your letter of the 20th of last, making inquiry about the application of Gypsum, and the benefits resulting from it, can to hand in due time. I deferred answering your inquiries at that time, from the fact that I could not give you reliable information as to the results, as it was the first season that my experiments were not conducted with more care, having an eye more to the general results than to the exact difference in the yield in a given quantity of land. I have always been particular in recommending anything new in agriculture, unless it was perfectly satisfied that it was both practical and profitable to the cause of agriculture, and I have availed myself of the use of the columns of the Mercury, that others may be induced to give their experience in the use of an article which it is believed by many will produce a great revolution in the production of cotton in this State. And I would here remark that no one experiment (however well conducted) should be received as conclusive evidence of its practical utility, until it has been tried two or three years; and too much care not to be taken in noticing the different seasons and the various soils in which the experiments are tried. I put enclosed ten barrels of Gypsum last spring in Charleston, and concluded to try it on an acre sandy field which had been in cultivation up destroying the ranking of a complete winter which had taken possession. I had planted it in cotton three years in succession; it was manured in the drill each year, and I suppose it produced about 600 lbs. to the acre. The past year I planted it again in cotton, and opened the old bed with a long Scooter, and bedded out with turning Plough. About the tenth of April we commenced planting, and the day previous I measured three bushels of cotton seed, one bushel of Gypsum and two bushels of ashes and wet them and rubbed them neatly, and in the manner described. I mixed and rubbed until I had enough to plant the field, (which contained fifty acres). The Cotton came up beautifully and grew off finely, having a green, luxuriant appearance, and continued to look well until the excessive rains in June, at which time it died out badly, and I almost despaired of making a half crop; but it recovered in July, and began to grow and spread beautifully, and up to the last of August it still looked well, though it was rather late; at that time the excessive wet weather set in, giving it another back-set, but it soon recovered and continued to grow and mature, until it was killed by frost. 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