

The report of this Committee appears in the Working Farmer for the month of March, and you cannot do better service to your readers, than to publish it *in extenso*. It is replete with instruction of the highest value on various branches of our rural vocation. Prof. Mapes raises 110 bushels shelled corn to the acre, 1000 bushels carrots, &c.

The farm of Mr. Gifford is mostly composed of heavy, whitish clay, extending to a depth of from twenty to forty feet, so that the turning of a sub-soil of a different character could not be appealed to for the melioration of the surface-soil; yet with little manure, this land was made highly productive by the use of a deep tiller plow (Knox's patent V.) In his preparation for potatoes, Mr. Gifford says:

"I ridge my land as high as I can get it in the fall, then run the lifting sub-soil plow between the ridges, using plenty of coarse manure. In the spring the ground is thoroughly plowed, harrowed, and drills for potatoes struck out by running a furrowing plow both ways in each, then the subsoil plow in the bottom, which slightly elevates the soil and leaves a furrow three inches deep for the reception of potato seed. Cover even with the surrounding surface, and add a coating of coarse manure to prevent the incrustation of the soil during the dry portions of spring and summer, and the loss of moisture, which is always injurious to our stiffest clays. After the plants are well up, I run the sub soil plow once about between the rows, alternating with the cultivator, and deepening the subsoil cut at each time, until the plants get too large. I am confident that the use of Mapes' Lifting Sub-soil Plow has nearly, or quite, doubled the amount of my potato crop, where used as stated above, and in comparison with soil treated in the ordinary way. I am very certain that the judicious use of that plow will tell handsomely at the harvest of any crop.—My soil has become rich and pulverulent beyond my expectation, during

the short time I have availed myself of its services."

Many others bear the same testimony; but why multiply proofs for those who are designedly, doggedly and desperately blind? Pile evidence, like Pelion upon Ossa, until the overwhelming mass overlooking the clouds, with its luminous summit pierce the heavens; its moral grandeur, weight and influence are unseen, unfelt, unheeded by them.

It is indeed passing strange, that men remain so long in voluntary ignorance of things so vitally connected with their welfare; but its solution lies in the proverbial folly of mankind. Men surrender reason, common sense, and every principle of higher intelligence to the despotic sway of prejudice; and this prejudice is as much controlled by the opinions and practice of their fathers, (whose ignorance was excusable for the want of light,) as that of the Christian world was, for many ages, while bound in superstitious veneration to that dark, confused pagan genius, Aristotle—"a veneration which was carried so far, that when metaphysical questions were disputed in the schools, questions on which every one ought always to have liberty to speak his opinions; when they were examining whether there were a void in nature, whether nature abhorreth a vacuum, whether matter were divisible, whether they were atoms properly so called: when it could be proved, in disputes of this kind, that Aristotle was of such or such an opinion, his infallibility was allowed, and the dispute was at an end." This slavish surrender of judgment to one man, is not more surprising than the blind and supple unanimity with which a large class of farmers implicitly rely upon the modes of culture of their fathers, and still persisted in by their degenerate sons. There is a class among, us, 'tis true, of another spirit, who are actively and nobly engaged in the work of improvement; and their efforts and example will slowly, but ultimately, it may be hoped, work a regenera-