THE BEAVER ARGUS
Will be Published Every Wednesday
IN MINIS' BUILDINGS,
THIRD ST., BEAVER, PA.,
At $2.00 per annum in Advance

☞ Letters and contributions, by mail shall have prompt attention.

JAMES S. RUTAN, Ed. & Pro'r.

BEAVER ARGUS.

Vol. 41--No. 42. Beaver, Wednesday, October 25, 1865. Established 1818.

NOTICE TO ADVERTISERS.

Advertisements inserted at the rate of $1 per square — week — subsequent insertions 50 cents. A liberal discount made to yearly advertisers, and on long advertisements.

A space equal to twelve lines of this type measured as a square.

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Marriages and Deaths, Religious, Political and other Notices of a public nature, free.

POETICAL.

[BY REQUEST]

AFTER THE BALL.

BY NORA PERRY.

They sat and combed their beautiful hair,
Their long, bright tresses, one by one,
As they laughed and talked in the chamber there,
After the revel was done.

Idly they talk of waltz and quadrille,
Idly they laughed like other girls,
Who over the fire, when all is still,
Comb out their braid and curls.

Robe of satin and Brussels lace,
Knots of flowers and ribbons, too,
Scattered about in every place,
For the revel is through.

And Maud and Madge in robes of white,
The prettiest night gowns under the sun,
Stockingless, slipperless, sit in the night,
For the revel is done.—

Sit and comb their beautiful hair,
Those wonderful waves of brown and gold
Till the fire is out in the chamber there,
And the little bare feet are cold.

Then out of the gathering winter chill,
All out of the bitter St. Agnes weather,
While the fire is out and the hour is still,
Maud and Madge together,—

Maud and Madge in robes of white,
The prettiest night gowns under the sun,
Curtained away from the chilly night,
After the revel is done.—

Float along in a splendid dream,
To a golden zittern's tinkling tune,
While a thousand lustres shimmering stream,
In a palace's grand saloon.

Flashing of jewels, and flutter of laces,
Tropical odors sweeter than musk,
Men and women with beautiful faces,
And eyes of tropical dusk,—

And one face shining out like a star,
One face haunting the dreams of each,
And one voice sweeter than others are,
Breaking into silvery speech,—

Telling, through lips of bearded bloom,
An old, old story over again,
As down the royal bannered room,
To the golden zittern's strain,

Two and two, they dreamily walk,
While an unseen spirit walks beside,
And all unheard in the lover's talk,
He claimeth one for a bride.

Oh, Maud and Madge, dream on together,
With never a pang of jealous fear!
For, ere the bitter St. Agnes weather,
Shall whiten another year,

Robed for the bridal, and robed for the tomb,
Braided brown hair, and golden tress,
There'll be only one of you left for the bloom
Of the bearded lips to press,—

Only one for the bridal pearls,
The robe of satin and Brussels lace,—
Only one to blush through her curls
At the sight of her lover's face.

Oh, beautiful Madge, in your bridal white,
For you the revel has just begun;
But for her who sleeps in your arms to-night
The revel of Life is done!

But robed and crowned with your saintly bliss,
Queen of heaven and bride of the sun,
Oh, beautiful Maud, you'll never miss
The kisses another has won!

—*Atlantic Monthly.*

Miscellaneous.

[From Arthur's Home Magazine.]

WEARING DIAMONDS.

BY T. S. ARTHUR.

"Miss Raymond looks beautiful, to night," said a young man, speaking to a lady who stood near him.

I turned towards Miss Raymond, who had not particularly attracted my attention. The beauty did not strike me, so I listened for the lady's answer. Touching Miss Raymond's face, let me say that it was of an approved oval; that the features were regular and the complexion good; lips full and ruddy; eyes large, but glassy, rather than what we call brilliant, as if lighted from without instead of from within.

"Her diamonds are beautiful."

"Ah!" said I to myself, as the remark came, "ladies are quicks to see below the surface, or else apt to deal uncharitably with each other."

"Do you think them more beautiful than her face?" was asked.

"Her face would show to better advantage without the diamonds."

"If I did not know you so well, I would think you was annoyed by Miss Raymond's display of costly jewels, or in some way prejudiced against her."

"I am neither annoyed nor prejudiced," answered the lady, smiling on her companion.

"You disapprove of diamonds?"

"No."

And she lifted her hand in a careless way, just touching, for a moment, one of her cheeks with a jewelled finger. I noticed the sparkle of a brilliant gem.

"Why are they not becoming to Miss Raymond?"

"Because she does not know how to wear them."

They lie on her bosom and depend from her ears. I see no difference between her manner of wearing them and that of other ladies."

"Perhaps there is not a great deal of difference. Few ladies wear diamonds well."

"Ah! I was not aware of this.—Then there is an art in diamond wearing, as in everything else?"

"If you choose to call it art. Certain it is that few women wear diamonds in public without letting sharp observers see a weak side in their characters."

I was interested, and joined the lady and her young friend.

"You are one of the sharp observers," said the young man, smiling.

"I generally see what is to be seen," answered the lady.

"You said, just now," I remarked, "that few ladies wear diamonds well. Like our young friend, I must own that the thing is not clear. Wearing diamonds has ever seemed to me a simple matter enough. All the difficulty in the case, to my apprehension, lies in getting them."

"Your difficulty is the smallest," she said. "Any sutler's wife, for instance, whose husband has got rich in selling goods to soldiers at double the fair market price, may hang diamonds in her ears, and circle her wrists and fingers with them. But the wearing of these choicest of gems in a womanly manner is a very different thing."

"What do you mean when you say in a womanly manner?" I asked.

"I answer, by way of approach to my true meaning, in the word unconsciously."

"A good actor may appear to do this."

"She must be a good actor, indeed, who does not betray her thought of diamonds, if she wear them ostentatiously, or, in other words, sets a higher value on herself because of her diamonds," replied the lady. "But what I really mean by wearing them in a womanly manner is to regard them as inferior to personal qualities, mere ornaments that please the eye, but add nothing to individual worth. They should be worn by a lady as other parts of her attire are worn, when she goes abroad, so as to give pleasing effect to her style of person, and to be no more thought of after she has completed and approved her toilet than any other portion of her dress. In company, the graces of mind should be first."

"You remarked that Miss Raymond's face would show to better advantage without her diamonds," said the young the young man. "What did you really mean by this?"

"Simply that, in the expression of her face, you read the consciousnes of diamonds. Take away the gems, and her countenance will be far more pleasing to look upon. If you were her lover, as I know you are not, which would you regard as most beautiful, the light of true thoughts in her face, or the reflected light of diamonds?—The consciousness of ornament or the consciousness af virtue. Do not understand me as seeking to lower estimate of Miss Raymond. She has many good qualities, and is far superior to numbers who are to-night. But she is wearing her gift of diamonds for the first time, and cannot forget their brilliance."

"That would be difficult for almost any lady," said I.

"Or for any gentleman, either," was answered. "Put a thousand dollar pin in your bosom, and wear it for the first time in company, and, my word for it, it will spoil the true effect as a man quite as much as Miss Raymond's diamonds are spoiling her true effect as a women to-night."

Perhaps my tone had unwittingly expressed a shade of sarcasm towards the sex, for the lady's voice was a little changed from its soft and even quality.

"I shall not argue that point with you," I said, laughingly. "Human nature is very weak, and men, like women, are human. Still, a weakness for diamonds is specially attributed to your sex, and I only spoke in reference to this alleged weakness. No doubt, we are infirm in our degree.—Very sure am I that the thousand dollars pin your lively imagination furnished would be in great danger of spoiling my effect as a man on its first appearance. The danger, however, in this direction is not imminent."

The lady's remark set me thinking and observing in a new direction.—The diamonds of Miss Raymond were exceedingly brilliant. Every now and then, as she changed the position of her body, or moved about the room, their light flashed into my eyes, and drew my attention towards the wearer. I soon saw for myself that she was one of those who did not know how to wear such costly ornaments—that they took from instead of increasing her attractions. Just a little too erect did she carry her person. In her air, movements, tone of voice and expression of face you could see a consciousnes of diamonds.

There were other ladies in the room with jewels as rich. Naturally, in my new line of thought, attention rested on these. I must see whether they knew how to wear diamonds or not. It was a curious study. Mrs. Little had a magnificent bracelet that dazzled you when the lights struck on it fairly. It was plain, after a few minutes' observation, by the way she carried her arm, that her splendid ornament was never absent from her thought. It was all the while getting into good positions, all the while so exhibiting the diamonds that you could not help admiring their brilliancy. Now, something drew the tip of one finger to her ear; now, her hand rested for a moment or two against her bosom, and now her lace-bordered handkerchief was held to her mouth. The wrist was hardly ever in repose, and you saw perpetual coruscations of light.

As an actor, Mrs. Little certainly knew how to wear diamonds, for in all these changes she hid, except from keen eyes, her own unfailing consciousness; but not as a woman, for inversely to their brilliance shone the jewels in her crown of womanhood. You saw that she was more desirous to be well esteemed for what she possessed than for what she was. Now and then, you read her thoughts in her less guarded moments. You were certain that she was saying to herself, "My diamonds eclipse all others."—And at the same time you saw real beauty fading from her countenance.

Miss Omerly had on her bosom a diamond cross. Satisfied in regard to Mrs. Little, I turned my eyes from her, and kept Miss Omerly under observation for some time. She had rather a plain, though intelligent face; her eyes were good, and lighted up beautifully when she became animated in conversation. I soon saw that the large, glittering cross was detracting from the just effect of her countenance, and I also noticed a certain air of constraint, as if she were holding herself to some unnatural position.—With the rising and falling of her bosom, the diamonds sent forth an unceasing flood of rainbow light.

Entering into conversation with Miss Omerly, whom I knew very well, I found her less interesting than usual. Her mind, which was good, and very well stored, did not act with its ordinary vitality. Thought fluttered low, and with feeble wings. "What does this mean?" I asked myself. "Is she thinking about the effect of her diamonds?" Not once did her fine eyes flash with the brilliancy I had so often admired, and which kindled almost into beauty her scarcely attractive face. As for the light blazing out from the cross, that threw only shadows upon her countenance.

"I'm afraid she doesn't know how to wear diamonds," said I, turning from my young friend, in some disappointment. "Evidently, she is thinking about them. She would have appeared to better advantage if she had left them at home."

An opal, encircled with diamonds, rested on a taper finger. The hand was still. I noticed a single gleam of emerald light. The hand had slightly moved. Then a red ray, warm and brilliant, shot out from the jewelled finger—white and violet came next in arrowy sharpness, and then only the pale green of the opal, holding its concealed fires in its heart, was visible.

"More diamonds," said I, observing the wearer, a woman of thirty, with delicately cut and almost classic features. She was in conversation with a gentleman, and evidently so much interested as to have scarcely any thoughts below her theme. The play of light over her face was charming, full of feeling and intelligence. Occasionally, as her interest increased, she would lift the jewelled hand in some spontaneous movement, and then how the diamonds blazed! At such times they were, to my eyes, the choicest in the room, adding to the lady's attractions, for they were worn unconsciously. The hand was so white and moulded with such symmetry, that the gems increased its beauty.

It was near the evening's close.

"I have been examining the diamond wearers," said I, to the lady whose remarks had given my thoughts this new direction.

She smiled, as she asked—

"And how many wear these gems with womanly unconsciousness?"

"Not many" I replied.

"How many?"

"One."

"Only one?"

"Only one, with that perfect unconsciousness which gives their true effect."

"You mean Mrs. Brunton?"

"Yes."

"She is one in a hundred. But, then, Mrs. Brunton has worn them for a great many years. It is in your recent possessor that you are apt to see the thought of diamonds."

"Mrs. Little," I replied, "might wear them for a score of years, and yet never with the true grace, for it is plain to be seen that she considers herself as having a higher social value in consequence of the diamonds. A poor compliment she pays to her personal worth. But I think society will rate her very nearly at her own estimate of herself, and set down here diamonds as the best part of her."

"Too severe," said the lady. "You are unjust to Mrs. Little. She is weak in a certain direction; but underneath her love of dress and ornament lies one of the kindest of hearts. Mrs. Brunton is more cultivated and intellectual, and lives in a region of mind above that of Mrs. Little. She cares more for literature, art and the higher things into which refined tastes enter; but, if I were sick, troubled, or in need of a friend, I would go past her, and find it in Mrs. Little a warm and sympathetic nature. All have weaknesses," added the lady, "and, according to your notion, women have a weakness for diamonds, but we must be careful how we set weaknesses over to the side of positive evils. It is by no means conclusive against a woman's good qualities of heart that she is not able to conceal her consciousness of wearing diamonds. We may smile at her weakness, but true charity admonishes us to hold in suspended judgment all beyond what actual observation has not verified."

I acknowledged the reproof, and stood corrected. Since then I have been inclined to notice diamond wearers with a closer observation than before.

The result of this observation does not give a very different report from that made on the evening above referred to, viz: that few persons know how to wear diamonds with the proper grace.

Age of the Oil Basin.

Speaking of the age of the oil basin, the Erie *Dispatch* says, the indication that petroleum has been gathered and used in quantities in the oil regions of this State in former ages, consists mainly of vats or tanks, constructed of logs and sunk in the ground, some of which were apparently of a capacity of one and two hundred barrels. They are found in many places contiguous to Oil Creek, with trees of a great age grown up inside of them and over them. Some have been found four feet beneath the surface of the ground, with large trees which had taken root and grown over them. But there are no tools, no inscriptions, no hieroglyphics to indicate their age or nationality. They are enveloped in dim obscurity, notwithstanding the light which they most likely gave to a certain portion of the world.

Profitable Conversation.

A number of friends were dining together in England. To prevent the introduction of sinful or idle conversation, one of them said, "Let us discuss the question whether we shall one and all get to heaven." This most unexpected motion induced all that were present to serious thoughts, and to thoroughly examine themselves.—One thought, "If one our number be lost, I shall be the one!" So thought another, and a third, and so every one of the company. Even the waiters at the table became serious and thoughtful. It subsequently appeared that this word gave the first start to the conversion of all present on that occasion.

☞ A cheerful temper, joined with innocence, will make beauty attractive, knowledge delightful, and wit good natured.

FANCIEY.

As you enter the cemetery at Montgomery, and turn to the right, you will perceive a colonade of maple trees leading off to a quiet glen. Beyond is a grassy knell, and leaving this to the left you will approach a pleasant level of greensward. Here you will be tempted to pause before a plain slab of white marble of the most humble description. It bears a simple inscription: "William L. Yancey." His last words were: "Put me out of sight," and said that he was constantly muttering, toward his latter end, those lines of Pope:

"Let me live unseen, unknown,
And unlamented let me die.
Nor mound, monument, nor stone,
Tell where I lie."

His death was quiet and painless, after a year of acute physical and mental suffering. He was a strict churchman; a man of quiet manners; a handsome declaimer, and a fair scholar. He was never wealthy and it is understood that he left his family without an independence.

The time has come when the circumstances of his last illness and death, with the occasion which suddenly convulsed a frame from perfect health into a wreck and mere shadow, may be mentioned as a historical fact. William L. Yancey came to his end by violence. It was toward the close of the second session of the first Confederate Congress that he broke from the counsels and influence of Mr. Davis, and became, with Mr. Henry S. Foote, a leader of the opposition.—Mr. Ben Hill, a Senator from Georgia had likewise changed his front, and was remarkable for the earnestness, personal interest and persistency with which he sustained the measures of an administration to which his allegiance had been given but late in the day. Mr. Yancy it will be remembered had returned from an unsuccessful mission to Europe, and was representing Alabama in the Confederate Senate.

The question of a navy was under discussion in secret session. The debate ranged beyond the parliamentary limits, and Messrs. Yancey and Hill became animated over the abstract doctrines of State rights and the divinity of slavery. High words passed, and finally the lie was given by Mr. Hill. Mr. Yancey leaped forward, and, as he aimed a blow at his adversary, was caught in the arms of the latter, and violently thrown back over a desk. Mr. Hill is a man of wonderful muscular development.—Mr. Yancey was never very heavy, though lithe and active. In the fall his spine was seriously injured, and, when the bystanders rushed upon the two, and dragged the one from the other, the great fire-eater lay unconscious upon the floor, with a little trickle of blood oozing from his lips. He was carried to his hotel, a vote of secrecy was passed, and the encounter hushed up. No one in Richmond, except that body of men, knew of the circumstance for six months after.—Meanwhile, the victim did not recover. He drooped from day to day. He became listless, hopeless and vacant.—He was transferred to his own home, where his convulsions ceased a few weeks before his death, which was tranquil and calm.

He died without one hope of success of the Southern Republic he had aspired to found and govern; for which he had labored day and night for twenty-five years; to which he had sacrificed his people, the Union of the States, and the chosen institutions of the South—a broken hearted man—"unwept, unhonored and unsung."—*Nashville Republican Banner.*

☞ "'Tis strange," said a young man, as he he staggered home from a supper party, "how evil communications corrupt good manners. I've been surrounded by tumblers all the evening and now I'm a tumbler myself."

NEW AND OLD HAY.—It has been ascertained that well cured hay weighed in the field July 20, and then stored in the barn until Feb '20, had lost 27½ per cent. of its weight.—It is therefore, better to sell hay in the field at $15 a ton than from the barn at $20 in midwinter.

☞ Artemus Ward says, that as a Son of Temperance he believes in temperance hotels, though, as a general thing, they sell poorer liquors than the other sort!

☞ Deliberate with caution, but act with decision; and yield with graciousness, or oppose with firmness.

☞ Form one upright, genuine resolve, and it will uplift into higher air your whole being.

Religious.

The *Evangelical Christendom* speaking of Archbishop Manning's Pastoral says amid the din of contending doctrines the Archbishop is glad that another has to decide for him what he has to believe and what to obey. He dilates with great unction on the happiness of belonging to a Church that knows what it means, and means what it says. He congratulates the faithful of his church that twice within this generation they have heard the voice of infallible truth, once in the proclamation of the doctrine of the Immaculate Conception, and once in the same Encyclical.

——The committee appointed by the last Protestant Episcopal Convention in Pennsylvania to report on "the best mode of working a parish," have prepared their report and published it in pamphlet form. The five points discussed, are providing religious instruction suited to all classes; conducting public worship, and training persons of every age and condition to unite in it intelligently and reverently; combining individuals socially, for the promotion of Christian fellowship, cultivating a true missionary spirit, by inducing each Church member to manifest an active interest in the salvation and edification of others; and extending a pastoral care over every member of the congregation.

——From an interesting article, "Our Contributions," in the *Banner*, we learn the average contribution per member to all Church and benevolent purposes for the past year, ending May, 1865, in the O S Presbyterian body, was $11,01. The New School Church give an average of $14.89.—The statistics of the United Presbyterian denomination, show the average gifts to be between nine and ten dollars. In the matter of Pastors' salaries, the *Banner* says the average in the United Presbyterian Church, is $678. In the New School body it is stated at $746; and in the Old School Church, $843.

——In accordance with the provisions of the General Conference of the M E. Church, at its quadrenial session one year ago last May, a general Church extension Society has just been organized. Mr. Thomas Tasker, Sen., a distinguished layman of Philadelphia, has been chosen President and Rev. S. Y. Monroe, of New Jersey, has been elected Corresponding Secretary. Mr. Tasker is a retired merchant of considerable wealth, and of commanding influence. It is expected this new organization will accomplish great good in this department of church labor.

——A clerical correspondent of the *Examiner* on "Ministerial Support," thinks a great deal of the change that is rung upon the word, "Woe is me if I preach not the Gospel," the implication being that there is a woe for the preacher, but none for the private member if he neglects duty. It is argued that preaching costs the consumer less, in proportion to its cost to the producer, than any other commodity—to use the language of commerce.—Perhaps it may be said it costs all it is worth. It is to be believed, he writes, this is true, if its tendency is to shut up men's souls in covetousness.

——From the Minutes of the New School Presbyterign General Assembly for the year ending May, 1865, we gather the following interesting statistics. Synods, twenty three, Presbyteries, one hundred and eight; Licentiates, one hundred and twenty-two, Candidates, one hundred and eighty-seven; Ministers, sixteen hundred and ninety four; Churches, fourteen hundred and seventy nine; Members, added on examination, sixty six hundred and eighty-five; Total communicants, 143,645; Total contributions, $2,067,183.

——A new General Assembly of delegates of all the Evangelical churches of the world has been convoked to meet at Amsterdam, Holland, in September 1866. The chief topics previously selected are as follows:—1. The present condition of the world. 2. Social questions, or relation of Christianity to society. This department is to embrace religious liberty, church and state, school, family literature and art. 3. Theological science, or the relation of Christianity to science. 4. Christian philanthrophy, or the relation of Christianity to the suffering of humanity. 5 Missionary labor of Christianity and the pagon world.

——City churches with well to do members are sometimes solicitous to secure model preachers answering to something like the following description: This model man must be one of fine physical proportions, commanding presence, good voice, effective in the pulpit, profound searching pathetic, fascinating; of high executive ability; a power in society; spiritually minded, affectionate, genial etc.

——At a Congregational Union of Canada recently held at Toronto, one of the speakers announced a new beautitude: "Blessed is the man that maketh a short speech; he will be invited again."

——The Baptists are about opening a Theological Seminary at Chicago, provided the endowment of two chairs are secured by the first of January 1866.

Agricultural.

Trenching and Subsoiling.

These terms, as applied to the culture of the soil, are expressive of distinct operations, although frequently confounded and used as synonymous. Trenching implies an overturning or reversion of the soil, and is, when properly performed, the most important preparatory process in the improvement of soils. Subsoiling implies a mere stirring of the subsoil, without changing its position, and so far as it loosens the soil is valuable, although not comparable with the more thorough process of trenching.

I have mentioned that trenching is important only when properly performed, for we occasionally meet with articles condematory of the practice, which can only be attributed to the improper performance of the operation. For all vegetable garden purposes, lawns and pleasure grounds, where an uninterrupted summer growth is desirable, thorough trenching is indispensable. What is thorough trenching? In a ferruginous, clayey subsoil, bringing six inches of it to the surface would be thorough; in a few years a farther deepening of six inches may be given; all depends upon the nature of the subsoil. Aiming to have a root bed at least two feet in depth, in such a soil there is no cessation of growth during the dryest weather, and without it we only produce half crops.

Like all other operations, trenching must be executed with judgment. In trenching ground intended for a crop of cabbages, I would not hesitate to throw up five or six inches of subsoil, no matter how tenacious or poor it might be. But I would not attempt to raise carrots, or any other plant produced from seed sown on that ground, until time had been given for its preparation; and those who cannot thus discriminate had better not attempt much of this kind of work without advice from those of more experience.

To raise plants from seed, finely pulverized soil is necessary to allow the young vegetation free access of growth. A newly turned-up crude subsoil does not present these favorable conditions until it is brought into a fit state by cultivation, manuring and exposure to the atmosphere. But, because examples are to be found where these peculiarities have been overlooked, and the consequent failures proceeding from such neglect have been realized, are we to abandon a practice which of all others offers permanent success, and which the best cultivators of all ages have rigidly practiced and zealously enforced?

But, it has been asked, Why bring up this poor, hungry subsoil to the surface at all? Why not keep it still as subsoil, stirring it up if you will, but always keeping the richest soil on the surface? Our answer is: For the same reason that we would bring a hungry man to the dinner table, or send an ignorant boy to school.

We are constantly asked to pay deference to the opinion of those who have had a lengthened practical experience. While we do so, we must not overlook the fact that the value of the judgments men form from the same experience of the same facts is very different. A short-sighted man does not see an object any the better for its remaining a long time before his eyes; so the value of an opinion does not depend upon the length of time for which the objects are viewed but upon the acquired knowledge and consequent perceptive power of the mind that views them.—*Cor. Germantown Telegraph.*

In-and-in Breeding.

There is probably no greater folly that the common stock raiser can be guilty of than breeding from animals close akin. The results are in almost all cases unfortunate, and tend to the degradation of his stock. This is true of horses and neat cattle especially of sheep essentially, of swine in a less degree, but noticeable; and in the case of fowls and pigeons the evil results are more quickly seen than in any other classes, perhaps. In and in breeding, where most carefully conducted, has produced very favorable results; but this was under the direction of men who gave their lives to severe, assiduous study of animals and their points, their differences of constitution and temperament, of form, size, &c., and who were also possessed of an intuition as to which animals would cross well. In those herds where in-and in breeding has been successfully practiced, it must be remembered that the relative number of males and females approached much nearer a natural standard than is ever profitable in economical stock raising. If any one wishes to see how quickly he can run down a superior flock or herd let him undertake to imitate Bakewell on a small scale.—*American Agriculturist.*

Draining.

Every rod of good under draining, in one or two seasons, pay the expense of making it, by rendering the soil more productive. Where ditches are already dug, let them be filled before heavy rains come and cave in the sides. This is the best time in the year to drain beds of muck and peat.