Farm, Garden & Household.

WHAT IS UNDERDRAINING?

It is an axiom of good farming that all land should be thoroughly underdrained; underdrained, of course, either naturally or artificially.

There is nothing mysterious either in the operation or in its effect. The ability to plough and plant early in the spring, the perfect germination of seeds, the rapid and luxuriant growth of healthy plants, the ability to grow and otherwise cultivate growing crops, as the opportunity for seasonable harvesting and for fall ploughing, all depend more upon the condition of the soil as to moisture than any other single circumstance.

For the purpose of illustration, we will suppose an acre of land to be enclosed in a water-tight box, its bottom being four feet below the surface, and its sides reaching to the surface, with no outlet at any point. The whole acre lies open to the rain, and the whole depth is saturated by every heavy storm. This acre of land may have the most thorough cultivation of which it is capable, and may be manured as land was never manured yet; and its produce will inevitably be precarious. In very good seasons it may be fair. In wet seasons it will be weak and badly matured; and in dry ones it will be mean and stunted. It will be the first of May instead of the middle of March when we plough it; the ploughing will paste together more than it crumbles it; the harrowing will do as much harm as good; the seed will probably rot in the ground and have to be planted a second time, and the growth will be slow except during the short interval (often only a few days) between the condition of "too wet" and "too dry." In short, the soil will be putty one half of the time and brick the rest of it: "It girns a' the summer and it greets a' the winter." It is such a soil as no man can afford to cultivate at all. Now let us knock the bottom out of our box and see the result. Of course we must assume that it is underlaid by a stratum of gravel or other porus material. The water which has filled the spaces between the particles of the soil, lying there until evaporated at the surface, sinks slowly away and leaves the whole mass pervaded by the air, the particles themselves holding by absorption enough water to make them sufficiently moist for the highest fertility, but affording very little for the cooling operation of evaporation at the surface. When a heavy rain falls, the soil may be for a short time saturated (soaked full) with water, and this drives out all of the air it has contained. As the water settles away, after the rain, fresh air follows and embraces every atom with its active fertilizing oxygen, and deposits, in the upper layers, carbonic acid, and ammonia, and all else that makes air impure and soil rich. Indeed, the water itself has washed the air clean, and then on filtering through the loose soil, has deposited, near enough to the surface to be within the reach of roots, all of its impurities.

Seed planted now finds so much moisture as it needs for germination, and only so much its rotting in the ground is impossible. And if we will follow all of the processes of growth and all of the operations of cultivation and harvesting, we shall find that the former are never impeded by too great wetness of the soil, and that the latter may be performed always in good season and with the best effect. Neither are the crops destroyed, or even greatly injured by drought, for if there is one effect of underdraining that is established beyond doubt it is that it is at least the basis of all those operations by which we most successfully attempt to overcame the effect ofd rought; and it is itself the greatest of all preventions of drought.

Instead of being a pest to the farmer, disappointing half of his hopes and baffling his best skill, this acre of land has become a pliant tool in his hands. So far as it is possible for him to be independent of the changes of the weather, he has become independent of them, and he works with a certainty of the best reward, which changes his occupation from a game of hazard to a work of fair promise.

To answer the question, then, which stands at the head of this article, underdraining is the knocking out of the bottom of the water-tight box in which our soil is encased. If we are the happy occupiers of land through which water settles away as it falls, we have no need of the operation. But if our only (or our chief) outlet is at the surface, with the drying sun and wind for draining tiles, we do need it, and we can never hope for the success to which our seed, our manure and our labor entitles us until we adopt it.

How it is best to do the work depends on soil, situation, price of labor, price of material and debth of outlet that can be secured.

Stone drains, tile drains, brush drains, board drains, mole plough tracks and all other condults for water are proven pretty good, so long as they continue to afford a channel through which the water can run freely. The choice between them is based on the questions of durability, cost and availability. The only positive rules applicable to all cases are that the drain should be a *covered* one, and not an open ditch, and that it should be, whenever possible, at least three, and better four, feet deep.—*Evening Post.*

RYE AND INDIAN BREAD.

Mrs. Eliza Prentice of Dacota sent the following recipe to the American Institute Farmers Club:

My method is for a good thick loaf, one pint of rye flour to three pints of Indian meal one half teacup (some say one cup) of syrup or its amount in Brown sugar; scald with boiling water—be sure and stir in water enough to thoroughly scald it; no salt; cover it over, let it stand until cool, then reduce it with cold sweet milk until quite thin, or enough so to pour into your pan; bake all day, let it stand in the oven *all night*, if convenient. If you don't have a luscious loaf in the morning, then I am not the daughter of a New England mother. This is the Rhode Island plan fifty years ago, that is, minus the molasses. The Massachusetts and Connecticut people used to add yeast when cool; but I must prefer the Rode Island plan. If your crust is too hard to eat, remove it, and soak it in water, then add to your next loaf; your will find it richer and superior to your first—after the second or third loaf you will need no syrup. Another way, that has been more recently sought out, is two cups of meal and one of flower, two cups of sweet milk and one of sour, one half cup of syrup, one half teaspoonful of saluratus, and a little salt; pour in a two quart basin, well buttered, steam two hours, and bake one hour in a hot oven; turn the dish bottom side up on a plate for half an hour before eating. This is for a small family. You can enlarge on it if you like. It is easily prepared for dinner.

TIME FOR MULCHING.

We believe in mulching as much as we believe in good cultivation, for it is a part of it; but there is a time for benefit to be derived in the greatest degree from both. Light, heat, air and moisture, are essential to the growth of roots below ground as they are to that of leaf and twig above; but if the mulch is put upon the ground early in spring, the direct action of these elements is lost, growth is retarded until heat has approached from a side connection, and it is then continued often late in the season, resulting in an immature, unripe condition of the plant. We have found our best results to come from stirring the soil frequently until the summer heat, then apply our mulch, removing it again early in October, and again applying it as soon as the ground is well frozen.—By this course we give our roots, in the spring, the benefit of the elements they need to make perfect growth; we keep the powerful rays of the midsummer sun away and thus give them a longer time to fully mature wood and root; we give them in autumn the action of the atmosphere to enable them to gradually harden the root and branch and fit it for the extreme cold of winter; and in winter, after having frozen them to sleep, we cover them so they may not be wakened from week to week, but continue their nap until such time as, by the natural order, they should again pursue their appointed course.—*Horticulturist.*

STEALING FRUIT.

As the season for fruit and berries is now here, our citizens in town and country are suffering from the depradations of petty thieves and pilferers, in many cases the children of respectable parents who do not dream of the occupation of their children. Under the technicalities of the common law, these annoying offenders could generally escape clear of all consequences. At most, they could be in danger of but a sound thrashing from the angry owner, who then became himself liable for prosecution for assault.—Now things are changed. Under the Act of 1860, the stealing of fruit from the trees or on the ground is a serious offense, and the remedy is simple and prompt. By that judicious and effective law, the willful taking and carrying away of fruits, vegetables, plants, vines, shrubs or trees, is made a misdemeanor, punishable in the Court of Quarter Sessions and rendering the offender liable to a fine of $50, and imprisonment for sixty days. The course of proceeding under this act is plain and easy. A complaint before any Alderman or Justice of the Peace is all that any person has to do. The law provides a full and simple remedy against the plundering and damaging of gardens or yards, and it is the fault of the owner if they suffer.

Humorous.

A Bad Sign—to sign another man's name to a note.

A Narrowness of waist shows narrowness of mind.

When is old cheese like a dollar? When it is all-mity.

"Now that you are on my side, I hope you will stick to me," as the patient said to the plaster.

A Baker has invented a new kind of yeast. It makes bread so light that a pound of it only weighs twelve ounces.

"I Wish," said a son of Eriu, "I could find the place where men don't die, that I may go and *end my days there.*"

A chap says he cured palpitation of the heart by the application of another palpitating heart to the part affected.

A Miss Rose was married to a Mr. Furnace the other day. This is a quick method of consuming a pretty flower.

A Sailor in attempting to kiss a pretty girl, got a box on the ear. "There," he exclaimed, "just my luck; always wrecked on the coral reefs."

A cynical chap insists that the fewer relations or friends we have, the happier we are. In your poverty they never help you; in your prosperity they always help themselves.

Dandies, to make a greater show,
Wear coats stuck out with pad and puffing,
But that you know is *a propos*—
For what's a goose without the stuffing?

The disconsolate one who sings "Have you seen my Mnggie?" has heard of her. Another fellerinforms him, through the music store, that "Maggie's by my side."

People may talk of the equality of the sexes! They are not equal. The silent smile of a sensible, loving woman, will vanquish ten men.

Is John's better half a demi-john? When William obtains a sweetheart, is he an accepted Bill? Should James' wife want diamonds when she possesses a "Jem" already?

"I am afraid, sir, you have settled melancholy," said a landlady to a miserabie lodger. "No, madame," he replied, "my melancholy won't settle; like your coffee it has too much grounds."

Artemus Ward was fond of telegraphing and studied it for amusement. He was a very good "sender." To the telegram of a California lecture committee, "What will you take for 100 nights?" Artemus Ward promptly replied: "Brandy and water."

A Drunken fellow got out of his calculation, and was dozing in the street, when the bells roused him by their ringing for fire. "Nine, ten, eleven, twelve, thirteen, fourteen," cried he; "well, if that isn't later than I ever knew it."

"John, wouldn't it be a good plan for you to have a stub scythe here and be cutting a few bushes along the fence while the horse is resting a short time?" John, with quite as serious a countenance as the divine wore himself said: "Wouldn't it be as well, sir, for you to have a tub of patatoes in the pulpit, and when they are singing to peel' em awhile to be ready for the pot?"

At a Grand Review by George III, of the Portsmouth fleet, in 1789, there was a boy mounted the shrouds with so much agility as to surprise every spectator. The king particularly noticed it and said to Lord Lothian, "Lothian, I have heard much of your agility; let us see you run up after that boy." "Sire," replied Lord Lothian, "it is my duty to follow your majesty.'

A Youth on his first visit to Portland saw the land across the harbor, and cried out to his father: "Oh, father, haint that Cuba over there, where all the molasses and oranges come from?" The noble sire turned upon his worthy offspring, and with a dignified and scornful expression answered, "No, you fool; Cuba is more'a forty miles from here!"

A Provincial Judge, who was a great bore in his way, called upon Bautru, wishing to see him. "Tell him I am in bed." "Sir, he says he will wait till you are risen." "Tell him I am very ill." "He says he will prescribe some remedy." "Tell him I am in the last extremity." "Tell him I am dead." "He says he will sprinkle you with holy water." "Confound him! let him in."

What the Ladies Won't Confess.—There are several things which you never can, by any accident, get a lady—be she young or old—to confess to. Here are some of them:—
That she laces tight.
That her shoes are too small for her.
That she is tired at a ball.
That she paints.
That she is older than she looks.
That she has been more than five minutes dressing.
That she blushes upon hearing a certain person's name mentioned.
That she ever says anything she does not mean.
That she is fond of scandal.
That she cannot keep a secret.
That she—above all other persons in the world—is in love.
That she does not want a new bonnet.
That she does not know everything.
That she can do with one single thing less when she is about to travel.
That she has not the disposition of an angel or the temper of a saint, or how else could she go through with one half she does.
That she is a flirt or coquette.

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But remember, our TERMS are *Cash* or *Produce.*
Remember the place!!!
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Nov.8:tf.

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WM. T. HOPKINS' "OWN MAKE" or "KEYSTONE SKIRTS,
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March20:10m WM. T. HOPKINS.

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30,000 lbs. WOOL WANTED.
The undersigned having leased the large new Woolen Factory erected recently at Waterside, for a number of years, respectfully informs the old customers of the Factory and the public generally that will need at least the above amount of wool. They have on hand a large lot of cloths, Cassimeres, Tweeds, Sattinetts, Jeans, Blankets, Coverlets, Flannels, &c., which they will exchange for wool as has been the custom heretofore, Carpets will be made to order at all times, Stocking yarn of all kinds always on hand. Our pedler, Wm. H. Ralston, will call on all the old customers and the public generally in due time for the purpose of exchanging goods for wool.
The highest market price will be paid for wool in cash. N. B. Wool carding, spinning and country Fulling will be done in the best manner at short notice. JOHN I. NOBLE & BRO.
may15:3m.

GLOBE FACTORY.—The subscriber takes pleasure in informing his friends that he is prepared to do
CARDING, SPINNING, FULLING, DYING,
&c., and though he intends erecting a
A NEW FACTORY THIS SUMMER,
it will not interfere with the
RUNNING OF THE OLD ONE.
His numerous customers will find him ever
READY TO ACCOMMODATE THEM.
1may:3m JOHN KEAGY.

Miscellaneous.

IMPROVED THRASHING MACHINE!
DANIEL GEISER. J. F. OLLER.
B. E. PRICE. JOSIAH FAHENEY.

Farmers will please look at the great advantage in Thrashing Grain with
GEISERS' PATENT SELF-REGULATING GRAIN SEPARATOR, CLEANER AND BAGGER.
With the latest Improved Tripple-Geared Horse Power, driven either by Gear or Belt.

No. 1 is a eight-horse power, with cast iron thresher frame and wrought iron and wood cylinder, sixteen inches in diameter and thirty-three inches long. Trunk has ten inch rake crank and seven rakes is thirty-five inches wide, and delivers the straw on the second rake, these carry the straw out on their tops, and deliver it on the stack or, which will deliver about thirty five feet beyond the feeder, on a stack fifteen to eighteen feet high, and can be easily managed to carry the chaff with the straw, or deliver it in a separate place. The trunk and fan sides being closed, to confine the straw and chaff, remedies all difficulties in cleaning grain against windy weather. It bags the grain by reasonable management, sufficiently clean for market, and its capacity, under ordinary circumstances, is from twenty to forty bushels per hour, using eight horses and the same number of hands; but to force the work under favorable circumstance, it will thresh from forty to fifty bushels per hour, and with more ease and agreeableness to hands than any other machine now in common use.

The No. 2 is particularly adapted to the farmer's use; in intending to apply to any common lever or railway power; weighs 1,300 pounds; has an iron threshers frame, and cylinder, 12½ inches in diameter and 28 inches long; delivers the clean grain in bags, or if desired, in a half bushel. It delivers the straw fifteen feet from the feeder, or if desired, can deliver the straw and chaff together; will thresh and clean, in good grain, ready for market, from 100 to 175 bushels of wheat, or from 300 to 500 bushels of oats per day, using four or six horses, and the same number of hands; but to force the work, under most favorable circumstances, good grain, &c., will thresh and clean considerable more. The Machine will thresh and clean all kinds of grain generally threshed with the common machine, and requires no more horse power, but in many cases does not run so hard. It will apply very well to a two-horse railway power.

Now here is what the Farmer and thresherman wants, a Separator to go from farm to farm, to thrash grain, with more satisfaction than any other separator now in use, and why is it? Because this separator has a self regulating Blast, which prevents grain from blowing into the chaff, and also has a self regulating feeder to feed the cleaner and it has rollers and combs the cleaner which prevents it from choaking. Why does this machine run so light, and give so little trouble? Because there is less friction in the Journals, and the rakes and fan are geared so that you have no trouble with Belts breaking and slipping, causing dust to fall into the wheat. Why does it clean against the wind? Because the blast has direct action on the grain and the cleaner is so well arranged that the wind has no chance to drive the dirt into the hopper. Why is it built permanently on two wheels and the front carriage separate, ready to attach when necessary? Because it is more convenient in the barn without the front carriage. You can turn the machine or run it from place to place more easily. Why has it not got Elevators like some other machines? Because the Elevators carry the fifth back alternately into the cleaner which must eventually go into the good wheat or in the chaff, and all know, that filth should be kept separate for feed, &c., we might as well keep shoveling the Tailings from under our hand fan into the hopper and expect to get the grain clean. Why is this separator more cleaner and satisfactory to work about than others? Because the Fan and Trunk Sides are closed up to prevent the wheat chaff and dust from coming out and scattering over the floor, causing waist and giving much trouble with dirt and sore eyes, &c. Why do Threshermen get more work with these separators than they do with others? Because this separator has all these advantages and many more, which makes it a separator suitable and a paying one for all farmers and Thrashermen that have grain to thrash, whilst in most cases farmers must suit themselves to the machine, because the machine will not suit itself to the farmer. In short, this is the cheapest, most durable, reliably, simple and most agreeable to work about and the only separator that will clean and bag the grain sufficiently clean for market under all circumstances.

Farmers can rest assured that this machine is no humbug, and judging from the high recommendation of farmers that are using them, we must come to the conclusion that it is the very Machine that farmers want and will have as soon as they have an opportunity to appreciate and attest its merits, for which we hope they will give us an opportunity, as we are willing to be responsible if it does not perform as represented in this Circular. *Shop prices of Machines range from $215, to $540.*

We warrant the machines to be as above represented; also against any reasonable defects of material workmanship, &c.
DANIEL GEISER, Proprietor.
Geiser, Price & Co., Manufactures. Waynesboro', Franklin Co, Pa.
6mos WILLIAM NYCUM, Agent, Bedford Pa.
may8

THE GREAT
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BUTTON HOLE OVERSEAMING AND
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The increase in the demand for this valuable machine has been TEN FOLD during the last seven months of its first year before the public.

This *grand and surprising success is unprecedented* in the history of sewing machines, and we feel fully warranted in claiming that
IT HAS NO EQEAL,
BEING ABSOLUTELY THE BEST
FAMILY MACHINE
IN THE WORLD,
AND INTRINSICALLY THE CHEAPEST

It is really two machines combined in one, (by a simple and beautiful mechanical arrangement,) making both the Shuttle or Lock-stitch, and the Overseaming and Button-hole stitch, with equal facility and perfection. It executes in the *very best manner* every variety of sewing, such as, Hemming, Felling, Cording, Tucking, Stitching, Brading and Quilting, Gathering and sewing on, (done at the same time,) and in addition, Overseams, Embroiders on the edge, and makes beautiful Button and Eyelet-holes in all fabrics.

Every Machine is warranted by the Company, or its Agents, to give entire satisfaction.

Circulars, with full particulars and samples of work done on this Machine, can be had on application at the Sales rooms of
THE AMERICAN
BUTTON HOLE, OVERSEAMING AND SEWING MACHINE CO.,
S. W. Corner Eleventh and Chestnut Streets
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Instructions given on the machine at the rooms of the Company gratuitously to all purchers.
AGENTS WANTED.
FRED'K PAXSON, *President.*
W. B. Mendenhall, Treasurer.
April 3:3m

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F. BENEDICT, Agent at Bedford, office with H. Nicodemus.
F. M. MASTERS Agent at Bloody Run, December 20th, 1867. m6