

THE COLUMBIAN, BLOOMSBURG, COLU

Citizen's Department.

Can We Marry Too Much?
To get an idea of the benefits of marriage, we have but to notice the plowing and planting of cow-yards. This probably every one of us has seen. This ought to be sufficient to impress us with the benefits of high manuring. We remember several such instances, in all of which there were crops that could not well be surpassed. Roots, corn, and even grass, were raised almost in miraculous quantities. Grass was green early in the spring, when there seemed to be no sufficient heat to start it. But it grew at once, and was cut when other grass was not yet in head. Three heavy cuttings we have known in such case, in which there could not have been less than two tons to the cutting on an average per acre. So the corn yielded a hundred bushels; the roots enormously. Now this is all owing to *great fertility*, so much manure, covering the ground each year for many years without cropping, would seem to be altogether too much. But is it? Are not such crops an equitable return? Does it not pay to manure so you can get such returns? Yes; not only do these cattle yards prove this, but old barn sites do the same. We have known these to show the benefit for fifteen years—and not only decidedly, but to large remunerative crops. This shows how lasting a soil may be made.

Manure is the best investment a farmer can make. It is a safe investment. It will not run away; it will not evaporate. It will, if comprehensively rich soil, raise any grain—any thing you may apply to it. It will always sell—and need we say for what price? If a little manure pays, double the quantity will pay double, and so on. How then it is doubled a score of times? There is a point, it is true, where this must stop—where a crop will yield no more, if more manure is applied. But who has ever found this point?

The truth is, we never manure enough. If we would double, quadruple our crops, we can readily do it by using the means—which is manure. There is other treatment of the soil which has its advantages, but manure is the main reliance, without which there is no farming.

Clay Around Apple Trees.

PROBABLY no fact in agriculture has been more clearly shown than that clay mixed with the soil around the roots of old apple trees, where the soil is naturally uneven and sandy, will act more effectively in reviving the system when old. Dig up or remove the soil to the depth of six or eight inches—the deeper the better, the powdered roots are not too much exposed by the operation, and fill in the cavity with a mixture of loam from the woods and pulverized clay, in equal proportions. After filling in with this mixture, spread on some wood ashes and gypsum, equal parts. This will stimulate the fibro-muscular system into vigorous action, and preserve it in a flourishing and fruitful condition for years. If at the same time the bark of the trunk and larger limbs be scraped and cleaned of moss and other parasites—by the application of powerful wash, or for instance house-lye or soap—the circulating system will exhibit increased power, and become reinvigorated without manifesting even the slightest symptom of disease. I have known many old trees, and more than one orchard resuscitated in this way. In preparing the clay for this purpose, it should be taken from the bed and dried by frequent turnings and exposure to the sun. When the moisture is expelled, it should be pulverized and mixed with the mould some days before it is applied. "Mulching" is as beneficial to old trees, after this operation, as to young ones newly transplanted. For this purpose, straw affords a valuable material; and so, also, do spent tan and forest scrappings.

Corn Culture.

THE season being backward, with more rain than usual, great care will be required in the proper cultivation of corn, to keep the soil as light as possible and perfectly free from weeds. Frequent stirring of the soil is all important to corn culture, for it renders more readily soluble those organic substances which constitute the proper nutrient of insectivores, and also attracts the soil and makes it more readily receptive of moisture. With a large number of farmers, the old practice of hillling has fallen into disuse, and except on hillsides and rolling land, level culture has been adopted. In some cases the change is undoubtedly for the better; but there are circumstances under which hillling corn may still be the preferable mode, and where the use of the one-horse plough is strictly allowable. As a rule, however, we prefer the shovel-plow and the cultivator, and with the exceptions to which we have alluded, we think flat culture the best. But the main thing in raising large crops of corn is to prepare heavily and to till the land thoroughly.

Trees with Holes.

CAN you give me any explanation or remedy for the turning of a cow's milk into whey after milking? I have a large number of cattle and occasionally some of them will become completely worthless, in consequence of their milk turning into whey. When milked, the milk looks healthy, but after standing a short time a thick curd settles to the bottom of the vessel, the cream rises to the surface, and between the cream and curd a large body of milky water collects, rendering the whole unfit for use. Churning the milk produces sweet milk, which, if left standing returns again to milky water.

THE Springfield Republican publishes the following remarkable effect of the recent dampness: Robert Bachelor, of Salisbury, has a flock of 28 sheep, which during the winter, were housed in a place where their wool became filled with hay seed. They have been out to pasture for several weeks, and the seed has sprouted, and they are now bearing about with them a crop of grass two inches in length.

Bottling Peas for Planting.
It is stated on good authority—we have never tried it—that putting peas into boiling water for about one minute before planting, the crop produced will be free from the bug. This seems to be an easy and plausible remedy; the parboiling of the seed will also doubtless

for the Young Folks.

The Two Wallets.

EVERY man carries two Wallets, one before and one behind, and both full of faults. But the one before, is full of his neighbor's faults; the one behind, of his own. Thus it happens that men are blind to their own faults, but never lose sight of their neighbor's.

The Heifer and the Ox.

A HEIFER that ran wild in the fields, and had never felt the yoke, upbraided an Ox at a plough for submitting to such labor and drudgery. The Ox said nothing, but went on with his work. Not long after, there was a great festival. The Ox got his holiday; but the Heifer was led off to be sacrificed at the altar. "If this be the end of your idleness," said the Ox, "I think that my work is better than your play. I had rather my neck felt the yoke than the heifer."

The Goatherd and the Goats.

It was a stormy day, and the snow was falling fast, when a Goatherd drove his Goats, all white with snow, into a desert cave for shelter. There he found that a herd of Wild-Goats, more numerous and larger than his own, had already taken possession. So, thinking to secure them all, he left his own Goats to take care of themselves, and threw the branches which he had brought for them to the Wild-Goats to browse on. But when the weather cleared up, he found his own Goats had perished from hunger, while the Wild-Goats were off and away to the hills and woods. So the Goatherd returned a laughing stock to his neighbors, having failed to gain the Wild-Goats, and having lost his own.

They who neglect their old friends for the sake of new, are rightly served. If they lose both.

Motives of Giving.—Here is a little fellow at the breakfast table. His father says, "John, you know your teacher tells you that you must deny yourself in order to present an acceptable offering to the missionary cause, what do you think of doing?"

"I have made up my mind, father; I won't eat salt mackerel for breakfast."

"I am glad, my child, that you are willing to do yourself anything for Jesus' sake. Why do you select that?"

"Oh, father, I am not at all fond of it. It is very easy to give it up, and besides we don't very often have it."

The children appreciate the illustration and smile. Oh! how many boys and girls are very willing to give to Christ what costs them nothing! But Christ is not ready to accept such offerings.

NOT MADE OF GREEN CHEESE.—A gentleman addicted to careless joking told a little girl who was gazing with admiration at the moon that it was made of green cheese. This she refused to admit, but he persisted in the assertion. Having been taught very early to read, she hastened to the Bible as her refuge in difficulty, and perused attentively the account of the work of creation. Returning triumphantly to the charge she said—

"It is not so, for I have read all about how God made the sun and the moon and the stars!"

"Very well," he answered, "but does it say the moon was not made of green cheese? You have no proof at all to bring in the question."

"Yes I have, for this was in the beginning, before any animals were made; and if there were no cows, or goats, or any milk-giving creatures, how could there be cheese?"

BRANDY AND WATER.—Drinking brandy and water is quite popular with certain residents of San Francisco, who have indulged in the habit since the fall of '49 or the spring of '50. Among those given to the habit was a gentleman known to his acquaintances by the sobriquet of "The Major." He liked his brandy and water as well as any one in the world, and indulged in it as often. Some time ago he was stricken down with dropsy, and drew nigh unto death's door. Hearing of his condition, several of his old cronies called upon him for the purpose of advising him to give up the use of brandy and water. They found him in his chamber in a very feeble condition, and firmly broached the subject which had induced them to visit him. He listened patiently till they had ceased, when he asked—

"Boys, do you ever drink brandy and water?"

Expecting to be asked to take some, they all replied they did.

"Twon't do, boys, 'twon't do," said the Major; "just look here," he continued, as he exhibited his distended abdomen and swollen limbs. "I tell you it won't do. I have been drinking it for the past twenty years, and you see what I have come to; the brandy has evaporated and left the water on my chest, and it's going to kill me. 'Twon't do to drink anything but brandy!"

CAUCUS WITH HONEY.
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DRUGS & MEDICINES.

HOOFLAND'S

GERMAN BITTERS.

HOOFLAND'S GERMAN BITTERS,

AND

Hoofland's German Tonic.

Prepared by Dr. C. M. Jackson,

PHILADELPHIA, PA.

The Great Remedies

FOR ALL DISEASES OF THE

LIVER, STOMACH, OR

DIGESTIVE ORGANS.

Hoofland's German Bitters

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