

DAMNED HEAVEN!

By WASHINGTON IRVING.

On their arrival at Albany, the sight of Dolph's companion seemed to cause universal satisfaction. Many were the greetings at the river side and the salutations before him, the boys whooped as he passed, everybody seemed to know Antony Vander Heyden. Dolph followed in silence, admiring the business of this worthy burglar, for in those days Albany was in all its glory, and inhabited almost exclusively by the descendants of the original Dutch settlers, for it had not yet been discovered and colonized by the restless people of New England.

Everything was quiet and orderly, everything was conducted calmly and leisurely; no hurry, no bustle, no struggling and scrambling for existence. The grass grew about the unpaved streets and the flowers bloomed in the garden. The tall cypresses or pendant willows shaded the houses, with catapillars from their branches hanging about like cocoons in joy at their transformation. The houses were built in the old Dutch style, with the gable ends towards the street. The thrifty housewife was discovered and colonized by the restless people of New England.

As Dolph's companion passed on he received a tranquil nod from the burglar, and a friendly word from his wife, all calling him familiarly by the name of Antony; for it was the custom in this stronghold of patriarchy, where they had all grown up, to call every child, to call every one by the Christian name. The fiercer did not pause to have his usual jokes with them, for he was impatient to reach his home. At length they arrived at the mansion. It was a fine, some magnitude, in the Dutch style, with large iron figures on the gables that gave the date of its erection and showed that it had been built in the earliest times of the settlement.

The news of Heer Antony's arrival had preceded him, and the whole household was on the lookout. A crew of negroes, large and small, had collected in front of the house to receive him. In the lead, white headed ones, who had grown gray in his service, grinned for joy and made many awkward bows and grimaces. But the little ones capered about his knees. But the most striking thing in the household was a little, plump, comely woman, with short petticoats, so admirably adapted to show and act off the female form. Her hair, turned up under a small round cap, displayed the firmness of her forehead; she had fine, bright eyes, a trim, slender waist, and soft swell-bust, in a word, she was a little Dutch divinity, and Dolph, who never stopped half way in a new impulse, fell desperately in love with her.

was night time to go to bed; though, on parting for the night, he squeezed Dolph heartily by the hand, looked kindly in his eyes, and then he said, "I have a little business to attend to, but I will be back in the morning." He himself had been at the younger's age. The chamber in which our hero was lodged was spacious, and paneled with wood, and furnished with a bed, a table, a chair, and a few other articles. The room was clean and comfortable, and the hostess, who was a Dutch woman, well wadded and glittering with brass ornaments. These contained ample stock of family linen, for the Dutch housewife is a good housewife, and she is not ashamed to show off her household treasures to strangers.

Dolph's mind, however, was too full to take particular note of the objects around him; yet he could not help continually comparing the free, open hearted cheeriness of this establishment with the starveling, sordid, joyless householding at Dr. Knipperhausen's. Still there was something that marred the enjoyment—the idea that he must take leave of his hearty host and pretty hostess and cast himself once more adrift upon the world. To linger here would be to betray the secret of the haunted house, and he was not prepared to do that. He was not prepared to do that. He was not prepared to do that.

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What Dolph whispered in her ear that long summer evening it is impossible to say; his words were low and confidential, that they never reached the ear of the historian. It is probable, however, that they were to the purpose, for he had a natural talent for pleasing the sex, and was never long in company with a petticoat without saying proper words to it. In the meantime the hostess came to the door, and Antony Vander Heyden, who had fairly talked himself silent, sat nodding alone in his chair by the door when he was suddenly awakened by a heavy salute with which Dolph Heyliger had unguardedly rounded off one of his periods, and which echoed through the still chamber like the report of a pistol. The hostess started up, rubbed his eyes, called for lights, and observed that it

visited Antony. The pretty little Marie said nothing; but as he gave her a pale kiss, her dimpled cheek turned pale and she stood in her eye. Dolph sprang lightly to his feet, and said, "I have a little business to attend to, but I will be back in the morning." He himself had been at the younger's age. The chamber in which our hero was lodged was spacious, and paneled with wood, and furnished with a bed, a table, a chair, and a few other articles. The room was clean and comfortable, and the hostess, who was a Dutch woman, well wadded and glittering with brass ornaments.

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when it was supposed the recent disciple would seek his old quarters, everything was prepared for his reception. Dolph, having talked his mother into a state of tranquillity, sought the mansion of his quondam mother, and the wretched woman, who had been so long a prisoner, was found in a state of great distress. He was now greeted with a tremendous volley of hard names and hard language, mingled with invective and abuse, and he was obliged to turn to go, excepting to a friend in distress or a culprit at the bar. In a few moments not a window in the street had its particular night cap, listening to the shrill cry of Fraa Hey and the guttural croaking of Dr. Knipperhausen; and the word went from window to window, "Ah! here's Dolph Heyliger come back, and at his old pranks again." In short, poor Dolph found he was likely to get nothing from the doctor but good advice—a commodity so abundant as even to be thrown out of the window; so he was fain to return to his mother and a sister, who for the night under the lowly roof of honest Peter de Groodt.

The next morning, bright and early, Dolph was at the haunted house. Every thing was as usual, but the doctor's fields were grass grown and matted, and it appeared as if nobody had traversed them since his departure. With palpating heart he hastened to the well. He looked into and under it, and to his great surprise, he discovered a hole of great depth, with water at the bottom. He had provided himself with a strong line, such as the fishermen use on the banks of Newfoundland. At the end of the line he fastened a large iron hook. With this he began to sound the bottom of the well, and to angle about in the water. He found that the water was of some depth; there appeared also to be some rubbish at the bottom, and he had fallen in. Several times his hook got entangled, and he came near breaking his line. Now and then, too, he hauled up mere trash, such as the skull of a horse, and a large iron nail, and a broken tin can. He had now been several hours employed without finding anything to repay his trouble, or to encourage him to proceed. He began to grow impatient, and he was about to give up, when he saw a shadowy form in the water, and he saw a shadowy form in the water, and he saw a shadowy form in the water.

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my friend myther Justus Benson, an ancient and excellent poet of the province. The foregoing tale rests on better authority than most taken of the kind, as I have it at second hand from the lips of Dolph Heyliger himself. He never related it till towards the latter part of his life, and then in great confidence (for he was very discreet), to a few of his particular cronies at his own table over a superabundant bowl of punch, and, strange as the hobgoblin parts of the story may seem, there never was a single doubt expressed on the subject by any of his guests. It may not be amiss, before concluding, to observe that, in addition to his other accomplishments, Dolph Heyliger was noted for being the ablest driver of the long bow in the whole province.

THE PEACH YELLOWS.

Two of the Leading Symptoms of the True Disease. The literature of peach yellows is a medley of contradictions. All sorts of views have been formulated and many theories have been built on a very slender basis. Among the facts believed to be well established are: That yellows has been confounded with other diseases of the peach, especially in New Jersey, where the lorer and root aphis are very prevalent. That genuine peach yellows appeared in the vicinity of Philadelphia prior to 1791. Since that time this country has never been entirely free from this disease. That it was prevalent on the Atlantic coast long before it appeared in the west. That it has extended northeast, north and northwest much more rapidly than south. That it is now more or less prevalent from Massachusetts to Georgia and westward to Lake Michigan and the Mississippi. That the disease spreads from centers, usually appearing first in localities thickly set with orchards. That the first cases of yellows in any district are usually in young trees imported from infected localities and everywhere it is the same destructive malady.

There are two leading symptoms of true peach yellows, of which premature ripening of the fruit is first in the order of time. The more violent the attack the more early and numerous will be the premature. A second symptom is the striking out of unnatural shoots from the main branches and sometimes from the stem of the tree. These are long and slender, and usually issue from the upper side of the branch. They have a sickly look, though tough and elastic. In our orchards we frequently meet with a tree having an unsightly enlargement, where the top was budded or grafted upon the stock, and apparently just at the point of union, but in reality above it. The cause of this bulging is obviously the use of stock which grows slower than the variety worked upon.

An instance of this kind is illustrated in Gardner's Chronicle (see cut) and represents a peach tree budded upon a damson plum stock. The soft wooded peach grows faster than the harder damson, and a swelling to a large bulging and unhealthy growth results. Often such trees die off when comparatively young, and the weakened growth a dend only a day or two after the tree has left the hands of the nurseryman. There is not much danger in this respect in budding peaches or peach stock, but in a general way it is well to bear in mind, that stock and top should be suited to each other in rate of growth.

Staking Newly Set Trees. That it is an advantage to have newly set trees staked firmly until roots have issued is not a matter of question. For doing this completely we know of no better method than that shown in the annexed engraving from Popular Gardening.

It would be tedious to detail minutely the rest of this story—to tell how he gradually managed to bring his property into use without exciting surprise and alarm, and how he satisfied all scruples with regard to retaining the property, and at the same time gratified his own feelings by marrying the pretty Marie Vander Heyden—and how he and Heer Antony, who had a merry and roving expedition together.

Three stakes are driven obliquely, as shown, and to meet at one point. This is easily done by binding the trees to one side a trifle. At the top of the stakes a bar of canvas or leather is wound around the trunk, and a slit dove at these places. The flaps thus formed are tacked over the tops of the stakes.

Several of the stations are making comparative tests of the various applications used in raising crabs. Tests of the various churms will follow. The New Hampshire station started this movement. A case of black rot in a large vineyard was attributed by a member of the annual meeting of the Western New York Horticultural society to the use of barn yard manure, the ammonia from the new manure being thought to injure the new canes.

FARM AND GARDEN.

SUBJECTS THAT WILL INTEREST AGRICULTURAL READERS.

Important Points in Sowing Winter Wheat. How to Secure Prompt Vegetation by a Careful and Thorough Preparation of the Soil. The importance of fine pulverization of the soil in preparing for the wheat crop is well known. One of the advantages of a fine preparation is in avoiding deep plowing. Farmers who deem it necessary to give much depth to their sowing in order to get down to the moisture are suffering a loss every year.

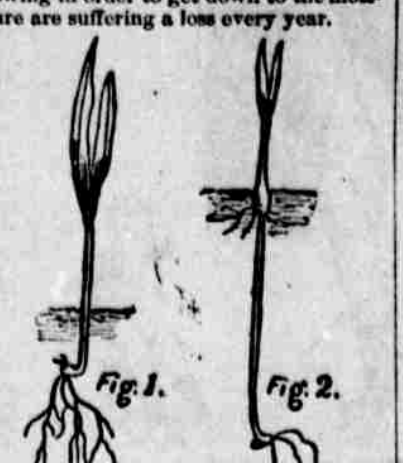


Fig. 1.—GERMINATION OF WINTER WHEAT. A satisfactory and instructive experiment, teaching a valuable and durable lesson may be made, says Country Gentleman, by preparing thoroughly a strip of land, and especially with a mellow surface, and sowing the grain on it just deep enough to germinate freely; and on another strip without good preparation setting the tubes of the drill a few inches more in depth, and then observe the difference. Or the experiment may be tried on a more limited scale. The seed covered to a moderate depth will start at once and grow freely, as shown by Fig. 1; the deeply covered seed will be several days longer in coming up, the time will be lost, and before it can get a strong hold of the soil it must throw out a new set of roots nearer the surface, as in Fig. 2.

In experiments made by Country Gentleman, seed buried one inch deep came up in six days, two inches deep in seven days, and four inches deep in ten days. A month later the one inch plants were stronger than the two inch and much stronger than the deeper plantings.

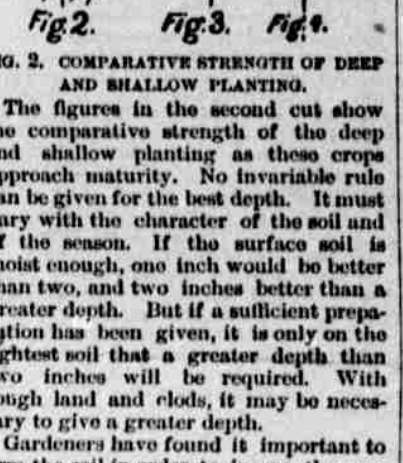


Fig. 2. COMPARATIVE STRENGTH OF DEEP AND SHALLOW SOWING. The figures in the second cut show the comparative strength of the deep and shallow planting as these crop approach maturity. No invariable rule can be given for the best depth. It must vary with the character of the soil and of the season. If the surface soil is moist enough, one inch would be better than two, and two inches better than a greater depth. But if a sufficient preparation has been given, it is only on the lightest soil that a greater depth than two inches will be required. With rough land and clods, it may be necessary to give a greater depth.

Gardeners have found it important to firm the soil in order to insure the germination of fine seed sown slightly below the surface. For large seed this operation is less essential, but cases may occur when with a dry or loose soil, rolling the ground may be of much use. But whenever resorted to, advise the authority quoted, the farmer should carefully observe if it makes the particles of soil adhere together, in which case it will do more harm than good. The same care must be used whether to sow before or after rain, where the farmer has the choice.

What Others Say. "Let any dairyman who finds it necessary to keep several skimmings of cream to collect for a churning submerge it until a sufficient quantity is obtained, then ripen it all at once, and my word for it he will find a safe, practical and profitable solution of the oxidation, aeration, stirring, hugar," says John Boyd. Examine young fruit trees of all kinds, and if borings or sawdust are seen on the ground hunt for the hole and probe out the grub with a piece of wire, advises American Agriculturist.

Any land upon which water stands a shower may aid in making it mellow and soft, and better fitted to compress all the sides of the seeds. On such land, sowing before rain may leave the seed lying loosely among the clods. But a long and heavy rain may render the soil unfit to be worked, and preceding it would be a better time. It is absolutely necessary for the farmer to use his judgment in all cases of the kind.

At this time of the year we should do all we can to save the old bees, for if we accomplish this, other things being favorable, we will have plenty of brood, and plenty of bees to gather the clover honey. For hours in the spring of 1888 I watched, with much interest, the little bees fly from the colony and well protected as they are, on which the direct rays of the sun rested, causing the bees to take wing in great numbers. Over the willows they flew, with the temperature at 45 degs., though there were clouds at times, and chilly northern breezes. If any bees had been on the north side of the willows, they would not have been out, taking the chances.

I had one row of hives fronting north, and where the cool breezes could strike the entrance; these bees did not dwindle to any extent, while those in the sun, and facing south, though protected from the wind, dwindled down on the average to one-third of the bees. Thus it may be seen that if the white clover had yielded a surplus, I would have been the loser of hundreds of pounds of honey. In short, I think quite positively, that it is not best to carry bees from any repository, and front their hives to the south, in a sunny spot.

CARE OF A HORSE'S FEET.

Keeping the Hoof Clean—A Popular Fallacy—When to Shave First.

The hoofs should be kept clean by being "picked out" or as often as possible to prevent any dirt or hard substance being buried in the fissures of the feet. They should be examined from time to time (say every six or eight weeks) to detect any defects of shape that might be taking place. A popular fallacy indulged in by many is that wet, soft ground, and even manure yards are the best places to keep young horses, and some even have the frogs and soles pared thin to allow the moisture to penetrate more easily. No greater mistake exists, for the preservation of the hoof depends to a great extent upon the soil the animal was reared on. We find the best footed horses are those bred on dry soils, and that is undoubtedly the kind of ground best for the growth of the growth of horn. Young horses require plenty of exercise, and unless they are allowed it the growth of the horn, etc., is sure to be defective.

In reply to the query when ought a horse to be first shod, the sensible reply seems to be: when the work required of the animal wears the horn away faster than it forms. In other words, so long as the hoofs are growing and the wear required, it will need protecting (shoeing). Moreover, if young horses were not shod so early, they would not be worked so hard, and fewer would be ruined in their youth, as is too often the case at the present time.

The principles of preserving the horn are: (1) To keep it as dry as possible, (2) to keep the animal on a dry floor or bed, (3) cleanliness—keep the feet "picked out," and never use the filthy stuff "cow dung" for "stopping" the feet, (4) prevent the feet becoming too dry or brittle by an emollient hoof dressing.

On the subject of fattening sheep one of our wisest farmers says: "A good grain for fattening sheep is shelled corn one-half, barley or rye one-quarter, and oats the balance. Years of experience satisfied us that it pays to use the shelled corn, to have all grain ground, even for sheep, and the finer the better. The process of resalvation will be just as well performed with meal as with grain. There is much grain that will escape the act of regurgitation and remastication, and, most important consideration of all, the particles of grain have to be reduced either by the mill, the teeth or the stomach, individually, before they will lend themselves to the great work of nutrition. We would have commended ground nearly as fine as wheat flour if possible; then the waste will be reduced to a minimum and the process of all-mentation will be promoted."

For Best Results in Butter Making. It is generally conceded that for best results in butter making, where the milk is of the average quality, the milk should be placed in the creamer as nearly as possible at the temperature at which it is drawn from the cow, there being a considerable loss of fat in skim milk if the milk is allowed to cool to any great extent before being set. Of late there has been considerable controversy as to whether it is advisable under any conditions to warm the milk before setting, and as to the limit of temperature beyond which it is unsafe to go. Mr. I. P. Roberts concludes, as the result of investigations at the College of Agriculture at Cornell university, that, first, there is a loss of butter when the milk is allowed to cool much below the normal heat of the cow before being put in the creamer; second, while there may not be any very great increase of butter when the milk is heated, there is no risk of injuring the quality of the butter by incorporating an excess of casing, even when the milk is heated as high as 135 degs.

Filling the Silo. Professor S. Johnson, of Michigan, always keeps a man in the silo to insure the silage being leveled and solidly packed. Some think that this careful, solid packing is unnecessary, but the professor says: "I am convinced, after years of experience, that when this has been most carefully attended to, everything else being equal, we have had the best ensilage. It is well to throw the cool silage from the corners and about the walls of the silo into the center space with that which is warmest, thus preserving an even temperature throughout." A Convenient Fence. Chilli Ohio Farmer furnishes the "sence of" ring sketch of a useful and almost perfect fence. Oak posts 7 1/2 inches will be 2 1/2 feet in the ground and 10, cause for

USEFUL AND CHEAP POST AND RAIL FENCE. After the posts are set, place flat stones or chunks of wood at the sides of the posts, on the ground; lay the rails on these, lapping them about six inches at the post. Saw pieces of the same length as the post above the stone or chunk, and wire them to the post at top and bottom, as shown. Seven or eight rails to the panel make a good fence. At the Wisconsin dairymen's annual meeting Professor Robertson said he had proved there was a loss in churning cream sweet rather than slightly acidified. In 100 parts of butter in cream 97 were obtained in acid cream, while but 77 parts were secured in sweet cream.