Miscellaneous.

Essay on the Apple.

BY JASPER HILLER.

Read before the Lancaster County Horticultural Society, March 4th, 1867.

It is not my object in this Essay on the Apple to enter into its history, or to trace its various grades of improvement during the ages that are past. Nor will it be necessary to say anything of its uses, as from the way that specimens usually make their disappearance, we naturally come to the conclusion that at least one of its uses is understood. It is enough for our purpose to know, that such glorious fruit as the Baldwin, Northern Spy, Norton's Melon, Rambo, &c., are in existence, and the question that is important to us, is, how to have them. The time was, not a quarter of a century ago, when the apple crops rarely ever failed. Then the even year was called the apple year, in which we might with certainty look for great crops of apples. Then select apples could be had at 25 cents a bushel, and cider at $1 a barrel.

Great quantities were fed to stock, and wagon loads were sent to the distillery, to be converted into Apple-jack, probably the only bad use that could be made of that noble fruit. But a change has come over the apple crop here. Instead of coming with a certainty every other year, it comes at long intervals, and when it does come, usually bids us be satisfied with half a crop. The theories for the causes of this change are various:

The first is, that the fault lies in the cultivation; that trees are not properly taken care of, &c. But these are idle assertions, for we have scores of intelligent cultivators amongst us, who know how to plant, prune and cultivate, and who are no better rewarded for their pains than others who pay less attention to their trees. If those who find fault with cultivators would bear in mind that formerly the old trees on the common, made their regular crops every other year, without cultivation, without pruning, and are now as barren as any, they would cease slandering fruit growers.

2nd. That varieties deteriorate or wear out from old age. If this were so they must do so everywhere. Our Rambo is not as formerly. But in some of the Western States it is now as fine as it ever was here. The variety there has not deteriorated.

3d. That trees are not as thrifty as formerly. But the experience of tree growers is that young trees make as much growth and are as healthy as ever.

4th. That our climate becomes more variable. That this change is caused by the destruction of our forests.

If this theory is correct, and I think it is, our future prospect for fruit is not very flattering. The history of the Old World shows parallel changes. Districts formerly garden spots, became upon the destruction of the forests, barren wastes so rapidly, that "a single generation has witnessed the beginning and the end of the melancholy revolution."

The woodman's ax is mercilessly plied, and if the warning voice, "Woodman spare that tree" is not soon heeded, half a century hence may not only find the country without apples, but our cereal crops will frequently fail. This will be brought about by sudden and extreme changes in temperature.

But it does not become us to despond at future prospects. Our business as Horticulturists is to overcome the difficulties that are in the way.

For this purpose we must study what are the requisites for making a crop of apples. These consist of proper trees, soil, aspect, cultivation, pruning, varieties, &c.

It will not be necessary in this paper to treat of the propagation of the apple. Few cultivators would find it profitable to grow trees from seed. But persons about to plant should select healthy and stocky trees, from six to eight feet high, and from two to three years old from the graft. The soil of our county is well adapted for the apple. As a rule, we may say any ground that will yield a good crop of corn is adapted for the growth of the apple. Avoid planting on the site of an old orchard. The trees never do well on such situations. Aspect or situation is, perhaps, under our frequent failures, of greater importance to us than all other conditions combined. Northern slopes and high ground are the best. The reason is, trees commence to grow later, and thus escape more of the changeable spring weather. But sites are occasionally found on low ground that have proven very good. The best orchard in my locality is on low, heavy ground, inclined to wet, with an Eastern aspect. The great advantage of this soil or situation is its coldness.

The few warm sunshining days that so often start our fruit buds in warm situations, in March of April, have no effect here. It requires a more continued effort of the sun to force its warmth into it.

The next best orchard is on dry ground, with an eastern aspect. This is protected on the North and West by high ground, and I think herein is its advantage.

The proper situations then would seem to be those that are late, and those that have the proper protection. Strong growing evergreens set at the time of planting an orchard, might by the time the trees came into bearing, afford all the protection needed. But who is posted up, to advise us where to place the screen? or what currents of air to cut off? The subject is worthy of our attention.

It is important that a young orchard is well cultivated. Crops that require hoeing can be raised until the orchard is 8 or 10 years old, after which the land can be laid down in grass. But it must be borne in mind that bearing trees exhaust the soil, and it is important that the orchard receive occasional top dressings of manure, or they will soon show symptoms of decay.

It is fashionable now to start the branches of trees within three feet of the ground. The disadvantage of the plan is, that on many varieties the branches become so low as to make it difficult to gather the fallen fruit.

The object of pruning is to give shape to the tree, and to keep its bearing wood within bounds. Too much trimming has the effect of throwing the bearing wood too far from the ground, and the reverse will compel you to take out larger branches, and make larger wounds than are desirable. I would, however, rather err in the latter direction than in the former.

Varieties are of considerable importance to the success of fruit growing. We here have a few varieties that appear to be weather proof. The number is small, but it may be that through our united observations we may find many more that possess that valuable quality.

First on this list stands the "All Summer," a native of this county. For the last 15 years it failed but once, (1861) in perfecting a full crop of fruit. It is a good fruit, ripening gradually from July to the last of September. Another native—"Crummel's Sweet"—is equal to it in bearing, keeps until midsummer of the following year, but is of inferior quality.

Hubbardston Nonsuch is also to a great extent a weather proof apple. It may not be inappropriate to give a list of the apples which have proven the most reliable with me:

Summer—All Summer, Red Astracan, Benoni.

Fall—Maiden's Blush, Jeffries, Hubbardston Nonsuch.

Winter—Baldwin, Greist's Winter, Pittsburg Pippin, Fallawater, Norton's Melon, York Imperial.

Of the insect enemies of the apple I shall say but little. Our Entomolgist can treat that subject much better than I. A word in regard to the borer, the most formidable of all enemies, may however not be out of place. Cultivators of the peach have ceased to consider the peach borer very formidable. One or two applications of fresh cow manure applied to the tree in a season is an effectual preventive. If the worm has made a lodgment he is easily removed with a knife.

The apple-borer is not so easily dislodged. But if trees are examined before the borer has made his entrance too far, he is easily destroyed with a flexible wire. Persons who have trouble with the borer should give the cow-manure remedy a trial. If that should fail, they can place a tarred belt around the base of the tree. That will effectually prevent the borer from entering at the ground, and if any should enter above the bandage, they can easily be removed with the wire. The bandage should be taken away as soon as the season for depositing the egg is over, to give the bark time to harden.

In conclusion, permit me to say that my experience in keeping fruit is at variance with the rules laid down in the books. The books say, keep the fruit in a *dry*, cool cellar. My cellar has a communication with the well, from which a continual vapor arises.

The Hubbardstown Nonsuch, Norton's melon and Pittsburg pippin, shown at the February meeting, are fair or early winter apples, and they were as plump and fresh as in December.

It is, however, important that fruit is not placed in such a cellar until cold weather sets in.

My object was to make this Essay as local as possible, and if in the effort I have succeeded in giving you a single good idea, I consider myself well paid for my labor. Those who desire a complete treatise on the apple will do well to consult the excellent works of Downing, Thomas, and others.

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A famous judge came late to court
One day in busy season:
Whereat his clerk, in great surprise,
Inquired of him the reason.
"A child was born," his honor said,
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"An infant judge?" "Oh, no," said he,
"As yet he's but a crier."

Miscellaneous.

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Real Estate Agent,
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Miscellaneous.

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Legal Notices.

ASSIGNED ESTATE OF ELIAS BARR, surviving partner of the late firm of Elias Barr & Co., Lancaster city.—The undersigned Auditor, appointed by the Court of Common Pleas of Lancaster county to distribute the balance remaining in the hands of John Quigley, Administrator of said deceased, to and among those legally entitled to the same, will sit for that purpose on THURSDAY, MARCH 28th, 1867, at 2 o'clock, P. M., in the Library Room of the Court House, where all persons interested in said distribution may attend.

mar 6 4tw 9l W. LEAMAN, Auditor.

NOTICE.—ESTATE OF GEO. MOHLER, late of Ephrata twp., Lancaster county, deceased.—Letters of Administration on said estate having been granted to the undersigned, in connection with John G. Mohler, of said township, and Solomon Mohler, of Cumberland county: All persons indebted to said estate are requested to make immediate settlement, and all persons having claims or demands against the said estate will make known the same, without delay, to the administrators.

WILLIAM H. PAUL,
One of said Administrators, residing in West Cocalico twp., Lancaster county.

mar 6 6tw 9

ESTATE OF HARRISON GUMPF, LATE of Lancaster City, deceased. Letters of Administration on said estate having been granted to the undersigned, all persons indebted thereto are requested to make immediate payment, and those having claims or demands against the same will present them for settlement to the undersigned, residing in said city.

DANIEL OKESON,
mar 6 6tw* 9 Administrator.

NOTICE!—DANIEL W. BARR AND Wife, of Eden township, having this day assigned all their property, real and personal, for the benefit of creditors, to the undersigned, all persons indebted to the Assignors are requested to make immediate settlement, and those having claims or demands against them will present the same without delay to the undersigned, residing in said township.

JOHN J. GALBRAITH, Assignee,
feb 13 6tw* 5 Camargo Post Office.

ASSIGNED ESTATE OF THE SURVIVING partner of the late firm of John Dellinger & Co., Lancaster city. The undersigned Auditor, appointed to distribute the balance remaining in the hands of Jesse Landis, Esq., Assignee of Henrietta M. Creager, late Henrietta M. Cullinary, surviving partner of the late firm of John Dellinger and company, of Lancaster city, Pa., to and among those legally entitled to the same, will sit for that purpose on THURSDAY, MARCH 14, 1867, at 2 o'clock, P. M., at the Court House, in the city of Lancaster, all persons interested in said distribution may attend. REUBEN H. LONG, Auditor.

Lancaster, Pa., Feb. 20, 1867. feb 20 4tw 7

Christian B. Wolgamuth, vs. John Peck, Jr., & John Peck, Sr. } Jan. T., 1867. No. 26. Ex. Doc.

THE UNDERSIGNED, AUDITOR APpointed by the Court to distribute the proceeds of the sale of defendants' estate, to and among those legally entitled thereto: Hereby gives notice that he will attend for the purpose of his appointment, at the Library Room, in the Court House, in the City of Lancaster, on TUESDAY, the 5th day of MARCH, A. D., 1867, at 10 o'clock, A. M., when and where all persons interested may attend if they think proper.

J. W. JOHNSON,
feb 6 4tw 5 Auditor.

AUDITOR'S NOTICE.—ESTATE OF CATHARINE RUTH, late of East Lampeter township, Lancaster county, Pa., dec'd.—The undersigned Auditor, appointed to distribute the balance remaining in the hands of John Quigley, Administrator of said deceased, to and among those legally entitled to the same, will sit for that purpose on TUESDAY, the 5th day of MARCH, 1867, at 10 o'clock A. M., in the Library Room of the Court House, in the City of Lancaster, where all persons interested in said distribution may attend.

feb 6 4t 5 JOEL L. LIGHTNER, Auditor.

AUDITOR'S NOTICE.

DANIEL MURPHY vs. J. H. KENDIG & CO. } F. Fa. to August T., 1866, No. 33.

The undersigned Auditor, appointed to distribute the proceeds of the sale of the personal property of the defendants in the above execution to and among those legally entitled to the same, will attend for that purpose on TUESDAY, the 20th day of MARCH, A. D., 1867, at 2 o'clock P. M., in the Library Room of the Court House, in the City of Lancaster, where all persons interested in said distribution may attend. D. G. ESHLEMAN, Auditor.

feb 27 4tw 8

John P. Milley, } November Term, 1866.
vs. No. 120.
Salome Milley. } Subpœna for Divorce.

IN THE COURT OF COMMON PLEAS OF LANCASTER COUNTY.—The undersigned, Commissioner appointed by said Court to take testimony in the above case, will meet for that purpose, on THURSDAY, MARCH 21st, 1867, at his office, No. 66 East King street, Lancaster city, Pa., between the hours of six and ten o'clock, P. M., where all persons interested may attend. J. B. KAUFMAN,

feb 27 3tw 8l Commissioner.

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Register's Notice.

REGISTER'S NOTICE.

The Accounts of the following persons are filed in the Register's Office of Lancaster county for confirmation and allowance, at an Orphans' Court to be held in the Court House, in the City of Lancaster, on the THIRD MONDAY in MARCH, 18th, 1867, at 10 o'clock, A. M.

Kinsey Cooper, Administrator of Wm. Lear.
Samuel Hershey and Jacob F. Hershey, Executors of John Hershey.
Frederick Sener and Nathaniel Eilmaker, Trustees under the will of Dr. Charles Herbst.
Amos Bushong, Administrator of Jacob Wiker.
Jacob Effinger, Administrator of Jacob Neber.
Abraham D. Grebill, Executor of Abraham Grebill.
Christian K. Miller, Abner Miller, John Miller and John Frantz, Administrators of Christian Miller.
Adam Herr, Guardian of Peter Menard and Edwin Menard.
John McComsey, Administrator of Christian Kreider.
Daniel Lefever (farmer,) Administrator of Jesse Rinear.
Jacob Grilborzer, Administrator of Christian Grilborzer.
Ephraim Bierbower and Jacob Bierbower, Executors of Jacob Bierower
Samuel S. Wolf, Administrator of Jeremiah Wolf, who was Guardian of Martin Welt.
Mary Hamilton, Administratrix of John Hamilton.
A. G. Sutton, Guardian of Adelia Ragland.
Samuel R. Zug, Guardian of Elizabeth Hummer, (late Miller) and Fanny Miller.
Samuel R. Zug, Guardian of Franklin Groff and Rebecca Groff.
Michael Page, Administrator of Henry Page.
John Dommy and Jacob L. Dommy, Administrators of Christian B. Snyder.
Abraham R. Kurtz, Guardian of Susan Kurtz, Samuel Kurtz and Henry Kurtz.
Daniel R. Hilton, Administrator of Joseph Hilton.
Philip Meck, Guardian of Emma E. Raub (now Grubb,) George M. Raub and Lydia A. Raub.
Joanna Davis, Administratrix of James Kennedy.
Roland Diller, Administrator of John Himes.
Dr. F. A. Muhlenberg, Executor of Jacob Demuth.
William E. Allen, Administrator of William Allen.
Urish Swisher, Executor of Philip Donohey.
Henry Dissinger, Administrator of Henry M. Dissinger.
Samuel Weigamuth, Guardian of Eliza Hoffman, (now Stern.)
Jacob Souder and Henry Souder, Administrators of Susanna Souder.
Henry Pownall and Levi Pownall, Executors of Catharine Pownall.
Jacob S. Strine, Administrator of Jonas De Long.
Miller Harrar, Administrator of Daniel Harrar.
Robert Gibson, Administrator of Lilburn Lee.
A. H. Kauffman, Administrator of Michael G. Brooks.
Jacob S. Eby, Administrator of Abraham S. Eby.
John Denlinger, Guardian of Esther Hershey and Elam Hershey.
Abraham Hershey, Guardian of Emanuel Hershey and Anna Hershey.
Abraham Rowenski, Administrator of Andrew Rowenski.
Peter H. Martin, Administrator of John Lichty
Joseph Frantz, Administrator of David Lichty.
Jacob Bender, Executor of John Bender.
John Shreiner, Surviving Executor of George Shreiner.
Rudolph Harnish and Emanuel Harnish, Executors of Abraham Harnish.
Jacob Stauffer, Guardian of Harriet Becker.
George S. Becker, Guardian of Aaron Becker and Amanda Becker.
Edward K. Seibert, Guardian of Miles Seibert, now deceased.
Abraham Rohrer and Jacob Rohrer, Executors of Jacob Rohrer.
David Dellinger, Executor of John Kreider.
Abraham Kline, Executor of David P. Breneman.
Joseph Bowman, Executor of Ann Bowman.
Sanders McCullough, Guardian of William Maxwell.
John Musser, Administrator of Oscar McCurdy.
John B. Gest, Jacob T. Gest and Levi Pownall, Executors of John Gest.
Benjamin Buckwalter, Guardian of Barbara Ann Eshleman.
David Evans, Guardian of George W. Long.
Henry W. McGurk, Guardian of Thomas C. McGurk.
Samuel Benedict, Administrator of Mary Johnson.
George Seldomridge, Guardian of Maria Wallace, (formerly Brisben.)
John B. Mylin, Guardian of Benjamin Buyers and Annazina Buyers.
John Seldomridge, Guardian of Ann Eliza Seldomridge.
John B. Hamaker and Abraham B. Hamaker, Administrators of John Hamaker.
Joseph Henry and John Fussnacht, Acting Administrators of Barbara Netzley.
Daniel Rife, Guardian of Anna Hunsberger.
David Styer, Guardian of Joseph, Hannah, Fanny, Adam, Elizabeth and John W. Spotts.
Richard R. Tshudy, Haydn H. Tshudy and Matthias T. Huebner, Administrators of Jacob B. Tshudy, who was Administrator of Matthias Tshudy.
Benjamin Mylin, Guardian of David Buyers and John J. Buyers.
Isaac Mishler, Administrator of Elizabeth Bact.
Isaac Mishler, Trustee of Elizabeth Bard.
Samuel E. Keller and John S. Hostetter, Administrators of Samuel Keller.
Henry Stauffer, Guardian of Henry M. Stauffer.
Henry Stauffer, Guardian of Jacob Stauffer.
John Frees, Executor of John Steffe, Sr.
Benjamin Breneman, Surviving Executor of Joseph Peck.
John Grebill, Executor of Isaac Diller, Jr.
John Grebill and Peter Grebill, Executors of Jacob Grebill.
William Sprecher, Executor of Mary Jacobs.
John G. Bowman, Executor of David Bowman.
William Geigley and Samuel Burkhart, Executors of Samuel Geigley.
H. B. Becker, Attorney in Fact of Israel B. Musselman, Executor of Elizabeth Bowman.
H. B. Becker, Executor of Elias Good.
Jacob Steffe and Reuben Delcamp, Administrators of Emanuel Steffe.
Elias Hinder, Administrator of Henry Stamm.
James Burns, Trustee to sell Real Estate of Henry Stamm.
John H. Roth, Surviving Executor of John Bomberger.
Emanuel V. Gerhart, Executor of Rev. Isaac Gerhart.
John M. Amweg, Executor of Casper Hildebrand.
James H. Clark, Administrator of William J. Clark.
Thos. M. Coulson, Executor of Wm. Williams.
Jorge Weller, Henry M. Weller and Joseph Weller, Administrators of Geo. Weller, who was Trustee of Magdalena Siechrist.
Andrew L. Lehn and Abraham L. Lehn, Administrators of Abraham Lehn, dec'd, who was Guardian of Darius Huhn.
Sam'l L. Brubaker, Guardian of Henry Sheetz, Barbara Sheetz, Anna Sheetz, Sam'l Sheetz, and Fanny Sheetz.
Joseph B. Keener and Tobias Stauffer, Executors of John Keener.
Louis C. Lipp and Charles E. Paul, Executors of John Lipp.
John Shenk, Jacob Shenk and Isaac H. Shenk, Executors of Henry Shenk.
William Brown, Executor of Rebecca Brown.
George Ackerman, Executor of Jacob Ackerman.
Ephraim Shober, Guardian of Mary Jones.
Jacob S. Witmer, Guardian of Caroline Doerstler.
William R. Zerfass and Peter Martin, Administrators of Elias Binkley.
Samuel R. Keller, Guardian of Louisa Weidman.
Henry Miller, Executor of James Bird.
Peter W. Gorrecht, Administrator of William Gorrecht, who was Administrator of Francis Wallace.
Henry Houseal, Administrator of Ann Houseal.
Samuel Truscott, Administrator of Mary Rakestraw.
Washington L. Wien, Administrator of Lavinia Aiken.
Samuel Truscott, Executor of George W. Derrick.
Margaret Turner, Administratrix of William Turner.
Samuel S. Wolf, Administrator of Jeremiah Wolf, who was Guardian of Margaret Weit.

DAVID MILES, Register.

REGISTER'S OFFICE, Lancaster, Feb. 16, 1867.

feb 20 4t 7

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Less premium notes expired in 1865	16,073.55	410,017.21
Am't of premium notes received in 1865		115,884.13
Balance of premiums, Jan. 1st, 1865		3,889.14
Cash receipts, less commissions in 1865		40,766.89
		$570,198.37
CONTRA.		
Losses and expenses paid in 1865	$ 37,987.88	
Balance of Capital and Assets, Jan. 1, 1866	532,210.49	
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