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So says Mr. E. S. Cannan, the very practical editor and manager of the Rural New Yorker, and the Rural Experimental Farm. Compare this with your own experience of the past season, and see how they agree.

Exhaustion of the Soil. It is certainly monotonous to grow the same crop on the same field for twenty or thirty years, but it is only in such monotony that satisfactory answers can be obtained to some of the most important questions in agricultural practice. It is in the fact that Dr. Lawes has conducted experiments with several different crops upon the same plots for such a long series of years, and with great care, that the deductions coming from his work are of such value. The recent statement in regard to his turnip experiments are in point, and we quote them below, not because they relate to turnips—which are with us a very unimportant crop as compared with their relation to English farming—but as an illustration of the disastrous effects upon American agriculture which must, sooner or later, follow the great wheat farming enterprises of the West, as conducted by speculating capitalists of the large cities. He says: In 1845 the land taken into turnip experiments at Rothamsted, and manured with superphosphate of lime, gave 14 tons per acre of bulbs and 4 tons of leaves. It has been under experiments ever since, but no succeeding crop has been so large, and at the present time a full supply of potash, superphosphate, and other mineral manures, will not produce more than 4 or 5 tons of roots to the acre. It is therefore evident that at Rothamsted the stores of fertility accumulated in the land before the experiments were commenced have been exhausted.

Advice to College Boys. Under this title the Practical Farmer of recent date reads the farmer boys a short lesson on the utter nonsense of wasting time and labor in the study of the classics, while at school, which we take great pleasure in transferring to our own columns, and giving our most hearty endorsement. These are "good words," and very "fitly spoken!"

PENSIONS. ALL disabled Soldiers and heirs of A deceased Soldiers who died from consequences of service in the Army, are entitled to PENSIONS. NO ARREARS allowed after JULY 1, 1880. Send stamps for full instructions in all kinds of Soldiers' claims. J. H. SYMPHER & CO., Pension Attys' 604 F Street, WASHINGTON, D. C.

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The Centre Democrat.

BELLEFONTE, PA. AGRICULTURAL. NEWS, FACTS AND SUGGESTIONS.

THE TEST OF THE NATIONAL WELFARE IS THE INTELLIGENCE AND PROSPERITY OF THE FARMER.

Every farmer in his annual experience discovers something of value. Write it and send it to the "Agricultural Editor of the Democrat, Bellefonte, Penn'a.," that other farmers may have the benefit of it. Let communications be timely, and be sure that they are brief and well pointed.

REPAIR fences and gates, put away the tools in good shape, and do the many odd jobs that will help so much when the busy days of spring come.

THERE is no better time than the present in the entire year to transplant grape vines. As we have often done before, we urge it upon those of our readers who have not all they need to furnish grapes for the family, to purchase one or more vines. Those who cannot afford to do so, may obtain cuttings from friends. Let them be about eight inches long, including two joints—one near either end. Plant these in mellow soil so that the upper joint shall be at the surface of the ground. Cover with litter of some kind when sharp frosts may be expected and so leave them until spring.

How to do It. FIRST, thorough preparation of the land by plowing, harrowing and rolling. Second, drilling in the seed from one to two feet apart, according to the size of the stalks of the variety planted and its suckering habit. Third, FLAT cultivation. Fourth, sufficient cultivation to keep the surface mellow and free of weeds. The above we believe to be the treatment to which we owe our immense yields of Indian corn.

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gunges is to a proper understanding of his own tongue, but don't you pay any attention to it. You can get all the mental discipline you need in pursuing other studies that will be of some practical use to you on the farm or in the office or workshop. Of course, if you have plenty of money and time at your disposal, and you are not preparing yourself for an early struggle in life on your own "hook," you can study these languages and anything else you please, and if you intend to be a doctor, lawyer, teacher or minister, they will be useful to you. Otherwise, let them alone and occupy your time with science, mathematics, history, economy, etc. Take book-keeping instead of Latin, and English grammar instead of Greek. Lay a good foundation and be thorough as far as you go, and then apply yourself to the study of your life work. If you intend to be a farmer, take an agricultural course of study. It is a liberal one, as pursued in our best industrial institutions, and will, in our opinion, develop the mind quite as rapidly and to better purpose than the old classical course that has been so rigidly adhered to for centuries. We know that fossil professors of Greek and Latin will pronounce this advice dangerous, and the man who makes it a fool, but we reiterate it, nevertheless—don't study Greek and Latin unless you intend to make some use of them in after life.

Swarming Extraordinary. There are doubtless many bee fanciers among our readers, who will be interested in the experience of Mr. D. A. Kern, with a hive of Italian bees, as related in the Ohio Farmer:

The first swarm came out May 5, and was put in a hive filled with comb. On the 19th of May the second swarm came out, and was hived with a weak swarm. On the 20th the third swarm came out, and was hived with the second and the weak swarm. On the 21st the fourth swarm came out. Mr. Kern caught the queen and killed it, and put the swarm back to the old colony. On the 23d the fifth swarm came out. He caught two queens and killed them, and put the swarm back again. On the 25th, at nine o'clock A. M., the sixth swarm came out. He caught two queens again and killed them, and put the swarm back again. The same day, at three o'clock P. M., the seventh swarm came out again. This time he hived them in an old straw hive, and set them on top of the old hive. In the evening of the 25th he shook them down in front of the old hive again, and that settled for the time the swarming fever of the old hive. But on the 26th of June, the first young swarm threw out a very large swarm, and on July 3d threw out a second swarm, and about five minutes later a swarm came out of the old hive again. He hived both swarms together and sold them for \$200 cash. All these swarms made 235 pounds of comb honey.

Manure Making. To make manure of any and everything on the farm for which there is no better use, should be the aim of every true farmer. It is, in fact, as the slipshod, shiftless farmer is unworthy the name of a "true" farmer. The first and chief source of manure on the farm is the excrementitious matter coming from live stock. Chemistry shows that the liquid portions are worth even more than the solid; hence it should be the farmer's study to save both. How can he do it? Easily, enough, if so determined. First, let him put the cost of his absurd fences into barns (with basements under,) and all planned with a view to housing both the stock and their excrements, the latter at least until it can be safely applied to the land. Everything that can be used as an absorbent—straw, chaff, cornstalks, potato tops, leaves, dry muck, road dust or even sand, salt hay, sea weed, etc., etc., should be placed "where it will do the most good"—under the animal, behind him, or under the floor in the basement if dry droppings go in that direction. The straw, stalks, weeds, bog hay or muck of the ordinary farm furnishes the material for vast quantities of manure—vast, at least, as compared with present results. The hen house, the privy, the wash tub, the kitchen sink, can all be drawn upon for large supplies, though ordinarily most of it goes to waste. Receptacles for dry muck or dry sawdust, into which slops could be conducted, could be easily made and with less expense than fences—fences, the most silly investment ever thought of for tillable land and money needing men. The cost of fences put into barns, and stables and drainage and manure cisterns—in a word, into improved farming—would add hundreds of millions to the wealth of the agricultural classes. If adopted at once and universally it would create a greater revolution in the country than did the discovery of gold in California.

Stable manure excels all other fertilizers in this—that it is more nearly a complete manure, furnishing for all crops what they most commonly need. The farmer, then, who skillfully supervises this branch of his work is on the road to success. He will see

hundred chances for adding to his manure pile where his slovenly neighbor only sees one. Even if his absorbent materials possess little or no value in themselves that does not discourage him—it is a convenience for conveying what is useful to the land. His manure cart is in the same category; so is his shovel and his fork. Some farmers find, or think they find, that swamp muck has not muck fertilizing value; but when well dried and made friable by a winter's frosts it will certainly absorb great quantities of urinal matters or household slops, and by that means they can be inoffensively conveyed where wanted. It is safe also to believe that, generally, swamp muck has virtues of its own. It lightens a stiff soil; it holds the moisture that comes to a dry soil; it makes a sandy, porous soil heavier and darker; it warms a cold, backward soil by letting the sun's rays through it as black cloth does on snow or ice. It needs intelligent treatment—as horses, boys and women do—that is all. Even sand has merits, also, though generally there is no desperate need of it within a rod or two of the sea shore. Weeds manipulated so that their seeds will not germinate are just as good as straw for the compost heap. Fermentation gives the quietus to seeds. Slops are exactly what is needed in a compost heap which has too much fermentation in it, because they check the heat and possess some fertilizing ingredients. Muck in a pile of animal manure and straw matter is also useful, because it checks and tempers fire-fanging, and its own possible sourness or extra moisture is driven out by the heat. When the farmer devotes his attention as thoroughly to making manure as the average farmer does now to fences and pasturage financial independence is close at hand.

Think on these Things. A man can not be a successful farmer and something else at the same time. The loss of barnyard manure may be prevented by the use of eave-troughs. I don't approve of cows licking themselves clean. I do that with the card and brush. Heavy fowls sometimes receive severe injuries in trying to fly down from high perches. If hens have a warm house and enough to eat, and of the right kind, they will lay in winter as well as summer. Niggardliness in the treatment of the soil is the worst economy; while liberality is returned many fold. This is especially true with regard to grass lands. As food to animal life, so is manure to vegetable life. Therefore he that would succeed as a tiller of the soil must use every available means to save and apply the same to his crops. Young stock at pasture should be taken to the barn before the nights become very cold or the feed very scant. There is no profit whatever in keeping any animals that are not constantly gaining, and it is not unusual to find cattle at pasture growing poor in October. Cider made very late in the season and stored in a cold place will keep sweet, because active fermentation is prevented. If it is rich and sweet when it comes from the press, and care is exercised in making it from good, sound apples, it will not become sour if kept in a moderately cool cellar in a tight cask or in bottles. ANSWER THE ROWS OF CORN. The autumn comes, in robes of gold and brown; The skylark greets her in the early morn, And sends from far above his mellow welcome down. She hangs her banners out, Along the woods in crimson garbment, And throws the forest leaves in gales about, With the brown stubble and the dry grass bent.

A Principle in Feeding. All food beyond such amount that is properly digested and assimilated by the animal is a source of loss to the owner, and that in two ways: First, the food is lost; and second, the animal is not kept in the best condition for getting the most out of its feed—its stomach is overloaded and its digestive apparatus more or less disarranged. Just inside the limits of assimilation is the point to have in view in feeding; in this way the animal will have a good appetite, and other things being equal, is sure to give the best returns for food consumed. There is a golden mean in feeding farm stock, which the farmer should find.

Vinegar. The essentials for good vinegar are: good cider; a temperature of at least 70°, and as complete exposure to the atmosphere as possible. The process may be hastened by adding yeast to the cider, or "mother" from old vinegar barrels, which amounts to the same thing. Vinegar making is, therefore, a sort of fermentation, facilitated by a low microscopic plant of the fungus group.