

Agricultural Department

Clover as a Fertilizer.

In an essay on green crops as fertilizers, read by J. L. Johnson, before the horticultural society of Warsaw, Iowa, referring to clover, he says: "Of all plants which I am acquainted with and which are especially adapted to our latitude and climate, the common red clover is perhaps the very best for fertilizing the soil. It is being one of the best, if not the very best to collect the accumulated richness of the atmosphere; while its long and searching roots penetrate the soil in all directions, and the depth reached by a most thorough and energetic ploughman, loosening the subsoil in all directions and bringing up mineral substance of the greatest value in promoting the growth of vegetables, grain or fruit."

Red clover as a fertilizer not only enriches, but renders the soil more open to admit the circulation of the atmosphere, thereby retaining the moisture and thus producing the best results. We should endeavor to attain a proper knowledge of the wants of the soil, for it is only by doing so that we become able to decide as to what fertilizer is most needed, and that rotation of crops to grow for the benefit of the soil. Knowledge and energy are the real foundation of profitable farming.

In all cases where soils contain lime, even woods (if we are not slovenly as to produce weeds), as we may thus destroy the seeds of weeds, and at the same time increase the fertility of the soil. The amount of green manure to be used in red clover is almost incredible. On the very poorest land enough can be produced, if utilized and rightly applied, to greatly enrich the soil. I see it stated in the California Farmer, that clover is a chemical fertilizer, claims to have found one piece of heavy June grass, (grass and roots together), containing more than one hundred tons per acre. If this statement is correct, but few farmers have a proper conception of the actual quantity of vegetable matter they add to the soil by ploughing under a heavy grass sward of clover.

Then we must consider how easy it is for us to utilize this material. It costs us no freight, as does the commercial manure; it requires no hauling, as does the barnyard manure, and it needs no spreading. It comes to us freighted on every breeze, nature evenly spreads it over our fields, and we may, if we will, apply it with the greatest accuracy. Then let me close by saying that we believe that to all our soils with a mass of grass and clover roots and other vegetable matter, is to make our lands fat, so that they will pay a good rent to the owner and tiller; it is to increase the fertility of the soil, by feeding and fattening it, as we believe it may be made fat in sod and in manure, as easily as we can make a poor pig to gain in flesh.

Watermelons as Food.

The watermelon stands, perhaps, only second in public estimation to the cucumber for its bad effects as an article of food. Like all other fruits, it contains some of the most poisonous of fruits that are transported by rail hundreds of miles, and then allowed to lie in the store or on the shelves until they are "mellow." It is not only the most poisonous of fruits that can be taken into the stomach. Allowed to ripen on the vines, picked early in the morning, and kept cool until eaten, there is no danger in the season more healthful to the system. Like the tomato, they are a mild aperient; but may be eaten liberally every day, not only with no ill results, but with decided benefit. It is a fact that the Egyptians, during the season of ripening the watermelon is a regular article of diet for the poorer classes. In all the Oriental countries, and especially in Persia, the watermelon is eaten with the most assiduous care and freely eaten by all classes. The only reason why they are in so ill-repute here, where the nature and climate are entirely contrary to them, can be from the fact that they are not eaten when they are at their best, but when they are at their worst—that of being stale before they are eaten.

In this respect the farmer need have no fear. They can have them fresh and in perfection, and may eat them morning, noon, and night, not only with impunity, but with decided benefit to the health. But, like any other ripe fruit or vegetable, they should be eaten judiciously. The object is to eat them fresh and glutted. If eaten daily during their season and in moderate quantities, we consider them the peer of the tomato—not only in the promotion of health, but as among the most valuable of fruits in the diet. The system clear of those bilious disorders incident to our climate, and which are often intensified by an irregular indulgence of those fruits and vegetables which all farmers who are not unfortunately do not raise for themselves.—*Prairie Farmer.*

It is a foolish plan to be seeking the best method for "putting down eggs." This need be deemed one of the first tests of thrifty housekeeping—the number of eggs plucked for winter use. But a much better way is to have your eggs fresh the year round. If hens have enough to eat and of the right material, they will lay as well as in summer. Farmers always expect to feed some grain to their fowls. Then, if they would save all of the waste meat that accumulates in the fall, to feed the hens in winter, they would be repaid in cash. This makes good work for the hens, in saving such refuse in some outbuilding, to chop up and use when needed.

It costs no more to feed a sheep than it does to keep a worthless dog. The sheep that feeds on grain pays for its keeping, and gives no end of trouble. The ewe will give you one or two lambs a year, each as valuable as its dam; the slut will give you a dozen or more whelps, none utterly worthless, if possible, than herself. The sheep will supply you with good food or bring money from the butcher; or the cow will require of you food and bring the tax on her to your door, and may be well worth the cost of her care, through horrible indigestion. Yet there are millions of dogs in America.

Educational Department

Committee of Associated Editors.

Communications may be sent to either of the above editors, as well as preferred, and will appear in the issue of which has charge. E. E. QUINNAN, Editor Present Week.

We publish the minutes of the recent Teachers' Institute, as reported by the Secretary, to the exclusion of other matter. We trust it will be read with interest by all friends of education, and especially by teachers. In the interest manifested as well as in the attendance of teachers, it was one of the largest ever held in the county. Dr. French, the conductor, (author of French's Binomial Theorem and a series of Arithmetics), is one of the ablest Institute conductors in the United States. He combines thorough scholarship with ripe experience as a teacher and Institute conductor. The announcement that he is to conduct an Institute will at any time call together the Bradford teachers in large numbers. Teachers, directors and friends of education should remember the next meeting of the County Association at Orwell, September 13 and 14. Orwell is one of the best places in the county to select for the Autumn Institute. Few places in the county possess its advantages of location in beauty of prospect and intelligence and wealth of hospitality arising from the fact that it is situated on the "Greenland" or "Mountain," in winter, yet, in summer, if not an Eden, it is a charming, beautiful spot. That the light be admitted on the left—west—and rear. That the book which is to be studied be placed at an angle to the line of vision. That to prevent curvature of spine a reasonably correct position on seats be required, and to prevent deformity of bones of the leg children never be allowed by the directors to have seats such that the feet cannot when sitting be placed on a level with the seat. That the stove be placed as near the door as conveniently possible, and no pupils be seated between door and stove. That in winter we ventilate by cutting an opening under the stove, and connecting it with the outside of the building by wood, but instead of dropping windows. (If room must be ventilated by windows, let it be by opening them at both top and bottom.) Singing. Interest in Arithmetic, by Secretary. How to teach Primary Arithmetic, was most admirably presented by Dr. French.

TEACHERS' INSTITUTE AT TOWANDA.
The Bradford County Teachers' Institute was called to order by Sup't. Keeney at Graded School House, Towanda, Aug. 20, at 2 P. M.
G. W. Ryan, Principal of Towanda Public Schools, conducted the devotional exercises, and elected Secretary.
John H. French, LL.D., was then introduced as principal lecturer. Any report of a visit to a report of the sessions, short of a visitation one, must be largely unsatisfactory and unjust to the instructors. Teachers are to attend, yet falling to be present and avail themselves of the valuable instruction presented by Dr. French, would scarcely have the interest to attend a report of the sessions, which would be found a brief outline of the Institute work, the seeing and hearing of which are necessary to its comprehension and appreciation.

The history of Teachers' Institutes and their uses is outlined by Dr. French, and then the Methods of School Drawing, Prof. Quinlan presented the subject of Primary Grammar, most of which has been published in Educational Department of REPORTER.
ARITHMETIC.
Mathematical Geography, continued: IX. Meridians. X. Meridian circles. XI. Latitude and parallels. XII. Longitude. XIII. Degrees.
EVENING SESSION.
Lecture at Court House by Dr. French, on the subject of Entomology, or the Insect world. The lecture was finely illustrated by paintings, and was very interesting to the audience.
THURSDAY MORNING.
Singing and devotional exercises conducted by the Secretary.
Dr. French continued School Organization, and after a discussion presented some clear and concise methods of teaching decimals.

Prof. Quinlan continued the subject of Grammar, illustrating analysis by an excellent (we believe) system of diagram. **INDUSTRIAL DRAWING, continued:**
Composition of Matter. Dr. French: I. Objects. 1. To cultivate observing powers. 2. To develop thought. 3. To cultivate the power of expression (a) in speaking; (b) in writing. 4. To develop originality (c) of imagination; (d) of reasoning powers; (e) of the invention.
After Industrial Drawing, and an exercise in How to teach Proportion, by the Secretary, Dr. French continued Mathematical Geography: 15. Diurnal motion. 16. Annual motion. 17. A plane. 18. Earth's orbit. 19. Plane of earth's axis. 21. Parallelism of earth's axis. 22. Earth's journey round the sun.

FRIDAY MORNING.
Devotions by Secretary. Decimals continued. Grammar, continued by Prof. Quinlan. Dr. French continued composition, urging that it be made a daily exercise. Method of teaching English. 1. Put words into sentences. 2. Describe familiar objects. (a) Form and Material. (b) Process of making. (c) Uses of object. (d) Value to men. 3. Describe persons. (a) Age. (b) Size. (c) Complexion. (d) Dress. (e) General appearance. (f) Peculiarities. 4. Describe places. At various intervals incidents. 6. Reproduce lessons. 7. Imagine and event. 8. Write letters of friendship. (a) Margins. (b) Headway. (c) Address. (d) Paragraphs. (e) Subscription. (f) Signature. (g) Folding. (h) Directing. 9. Write letters of business. 10. Write business receipts. 11. Write recitations. 12. Miscellaneous Essays.

FRIDAY AFTERNOON.
Industrial Drawing, by Dr. French. Primary Reading, by the Secretary. Election of Committee on Permanent Certificate. Mrs. Sherwood unveiled the exercises occasionally during the sessions by some excellent selections on the piano. Just before the close of the Institute a 430 Writing Desk was presented to Sup't. Keeney by the members of the Institute. He seemed taken completely by surprise, but in accepting replied to the earnest wishes for his health, happiness and prosperity expressed in the presentation by a few remarks—affecting, grateful and appropriate. Adjourned at 4 P. M.

NOTICE.—In the matter of the voluntary assignment of John C. Johnson to the benefit of creditors. Notice is hereby given that the said John C. Johnson, assignee of the estate of John C. Johnson, deceased, has filed in the County Court of Bradford County, Pa., a true and correct copy of a list of the names of the creditors of the said John C. Johnson, deceased, and of the amounts claimed by each of them, and that the said list of creditors and amounts claimed is open for inspection by all persons having claims against the said John C. Johnson, deceased, at the office of the undersigned at Towanda, Pa., on and after the 21st day of September, 1877, until the 10th day of October, 1877, unless cause be shown why it should not be. B. M. PECK, Prof.

Exercise and Provisions.

CONVENIENT NEW ARRANGEMENT.

The demand for a GROCERY STORE in a convenient location has induced us to enlarge our store and supply ourselves with a full line of CHOICE FAMILY GROCERIES.

PURCHASED FOR CASH.
And which will be sold as low as the same quality can be purchased anywhere.

CHOICE FAMILY GROCERIES
We keep on hand the CHOICEST BRANDS OF FAMILY FLOUR.

All goods delivered free of charge in the borough.

BAKING BUSINESS.
And our customers can procure FRESH BREAD, FRESH BISCUIT, ROLLS, CAKES, AND PIES.

Every day, as usual.

SEND ORDERS FOR PICTURES AND FANCY SPECIALTY.

One Door North of Ward House.

D. W. SCOTT & CO.

Towanda, March 13, 1877.

STEVENS & LONG.

WHOLESALE & RETAIL.

Dealers in CHOICE FAMILY GROCERIES, COUNTRY PRODUCE, GRAIN, & C.

Having a large and commodious store we are prepared at all times to carry a large stock.

CASH PAID FOR BUTTER, GRAIN AND PRODUCE.

GREATER INDUCEMENTS TO FRESHNESS.

Figures than any other establishment in Northern Pennsylvania.

STEVENS & LONG.

CORNER MAIN & BRIDGE STS., TOWANDA, PA.

GROCERIES & PROVISIONS.

These instruments are obtained the world over for their remarkably pure and brilliant work.

ONE DOOR NORTH OF CODDING & RUSSELL.

Crockery Ware.

NEW FIRM AND NEW GOODS.

M. J. Madill

Has filed up the old store of O. A. Black with full stock.

CROCKERY, CHINA, CHINA, GLASSWARE!

CUTLERY, SILVER PLATED GOODS, STONWARE!

DEVELOPMENT OF THE HOUSE FURNISHING GOODS!

A great variety of LAMPS, LANTERNS, CHIMNEYS!

A NEW DEPARTMENT!

Having Machines of the leading makers sold for cash at store, at wonderfully low prices.

MACHINE NEEDLES & OIL.

LADIES, GENTS AND CHILDREN

Are invited to look over our assortment, as we are determined to do all in our power to please. Included in the list.

"OLD CROCKERY STORE"

Towanda, July 10, 1877.

Medical Instruments.

DURING THE HARD TIMES, WATCHES, JEWELRY, SILVER WARE, & CO.

Offers a number of Second-hand PIANOS AND ORGANS, PIANOS AND ORGANS, PIANOS AND ORGANS.

At very low prices for Cash.

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