

The Farmer's Department.

Ashes for Sandy Lands.

Of all the manures within reach of the farmer, I consider ashes the cheapest and most durable for sandy soils. For clover on sandy land, it has no equal among all the manures and fertilizers of the day. My land, a few years ago, could have been bought for one-third what it would bring at the present time. The cause of this rise in the price of land is a liberal supply of muck and ashes. The muck is drawn on in winter and spread over the land; and ashes are applied in the spring, at the rate of 75 bushels to the acre; after corn is planted it is put on the hill or sown broadcast. The general rule is to plant with corn and put the ashes on the hill; sow to rye in the fall as soon as the corn is removed; seed with clover the following spring. The following season, after the rye is removed, the seed is gathered from the clover and the straw left standing on the ground. This is done with one of Disbrow's Clover Strippers, and excellent machine for the purpose. Two bushels of seed are frequently obtained from an acre; the straw thus left standing forms an excellent substance, in connection with the muck, to fill the pores or open places between the particles of sand, and supply proper food when acted upon by the salts around it. I have known portions of these plains the surface of which, to all appearance, had not been covered with vegetation within the memory of man—where the blackberry vines weak and feeble, and five finger vines grey weak and far between, so completely invigorated and enriched in a few years, as to produce thirty bushels of rye, or two bushels of clover seed to the acre. Those lands thus brought to a state of fertility, are capable of yielding as good a crop every year, under the application of ashes, as those lands which have never been reduced. The owners of farms of heavy loam have heretofore considered these lands of little value, as compared with theirs; but I would sooner cultivate a corn crop on them than on the heavier loam land. I can work two acres of the sand as well as one of the heavier land, because the plowing and hoeing can be done with less team and help, and in much less time. Ashes here can be bought for 12 1/2 cents per bushel, and I think are worth 25 cents to be applied to sandy soil in connection with muck. This mode of operation for the treatment of sandy soil, so as to bring it on an equal footing in point of productiveness, requires no uncommon skill, but commends itself to the practice of all—for any common manager of a farm may accomplish it without the aid of any adjuncts of chemistry, or what are called special manures, but by using merely those great gifts of nature.—S. P. KEATOR, in Country Gentleman.

The Time to Plant.

We are frequently asked if spring or fall is the best time to transplant shrubs, trees, evergreens, &c. Our answer is, for this latitude and North, the spring. Especially is this true if the trees are not perfectly hardy, and if not done quite early in the fall. There are several reasons why the spring is best. One of these is that quite frequently simply a hole has to be dug in which to plant. This, in a retentive soil, in the fall will fill with water the first rain, and the roots remain in a perfect puddle. A great many will say why not alter this? The ground, if properly prepared, will not stand in puddles. This is true enough, but we fear, in our new country, if no tree were planted until the gardener had pronounced it well prepared, fewer still would be planted in the Spring, just before the expanding of the leaves, they would go on and flourish finely. We have seen trees planted at almost all seasons of the year, and have an example a short distance from where we write, of quite an extensive plantation of large evergreens, say from 8 to 10 ft. high, planted last summer, and at a time too when no rain was falling. The new growth had pushed some six inches, more or less, and was perfectly soft, so much so that the effect of removing was to prostrate these branches entirely, much of it dying off; some of the shoots lived, but entirely stunted in appearance, although not over six died outright out of some 100 trees. We also recollect, last summer, some magnificent specimens of Norway fir being shipped by rail from Mendota to this city. These were ten feet or over in height, very wide base, yet they did not all die, and with the lot before spoken of, we quite believe will mostly weather the storm, and ultimately make fair trees. They make no such appearance, however, as they would have done, had they been planted just before the shoots burst into new growth, say the last two weeks in April in this latitude. The effect of removal might have been a check to exuberant growth, but what was made would be healthy and the tree in a condition to push with full vigor the ensuing summer. With grapes, evergreens, roses and plants there are difficulties. We say, plant in the spring; you are safe then, which is not so certain at any other season of the year.

—Pa. Farmer and Gardener.

One hour gained by early rising is worth a month in a year.

Religious Department.

Confession of A Sick Minister.

The members of my church come to inquire after my health; and while all of them show me their sympathy and gratitude, I accuse myself. I see these long days and evenings lost or spent on trifles, when I could have visited my people at their firesides with the unreserved confidence of a friend. Several of them see me only in my official capacity: I have not been to them a confidant. How few of them felt induced to unbosom their consciences! I have indeed visited them but I had too many preferences. It is true, it is impossible not to have any; Jesus went often to Lazarus than to Simon; one cannot feel feeling more attracted toward those whose Christian hearts beat responsively to his own than towards those whom one fears to incommode by his presence. But I will confess and not excuse my faults. I had too many preferences, because I sought rather for Christian enjoyment than Christian mission in my ministry. And then—those pastoral visits, were they indeed pastoral? When I was in parson, did I not, with the thought of not being singular, divest of my ministerial character? make worldly my ministry, and become worldly myself?

But what have I done for the unbelievers, the scoffers, the scornful skeptics?—I preached sermons which sometimes wearied them, or which they did come to hear. I paid rare visits, in which I felt uncomfortable, and so to say, embarrassed them with my ministry. My faith was so timid that they perceived rather my timidity than my faith. For accommodation's sake, and as an introduction to my message, I spoke to them of their affairs, and this unlucky introduction was so long that it introduced nothing at all. I went away discouraged, to pay other visits of the same kind; and deeming them useless, I renewed them rarely. I feel, however, now, that it was my peculiar task to use the authority of my ministry to speak to them of Christ. And who will do so if it is not I? Alas! I have not done so faithfully. There are unbelievers in my neighborhood who never attend public worship, on whom I call very rarely, and to whom I never have spoken directly about the Savior. Both of us pursue our course; I, mine towards heaven; they, theirs towards hell. A great abyss separates us, but they can still pass over it at one bound. And I have not had the courage to tell them: "Stop! come to the other side." My faithfulness was satisfied with crying it from the pulpit. . . . I have indeed done something. Yes, I have done something else than to baptize, to marry, to follow funerals, and to preach. I have felt some love for my flock. This love, however weak it may have been, will have shown itself in my discourses, in my visits, in my shakings of the hand. I believe that in my congregation friends and enemies will tell you that I am their good and faithful pastor. Oh! silence these people. The lives of Oberlin, of Neff, and of so many other godly men, recur to my memory. I look for, I wish this humiliating comparison. Why cannot my ministry be compared to theirs? Why? Have I not the same creed? Have I not the same Savior? Am I not a pardoned sinner, and consequently have I not as great a reason for gratitude as they had?

Have I not the same resources? Had I not at my disposal the same Spirit, the same means of grace? Why do I not, like them, leave behind me the savor of godliness? Is it ambition to wish to resemble these sainted men? Were to the pastor who has no ideal that renders him dissatisfied with himself and urges him on towards the Neffs and Oberlins? If there be a justifiable ambition, is it not that of faithfulness?

Through the storm I have heard the soothing word. "My grace is sufficient for thee;" which can only fall from heaven as the dew falls on the barren earth. Oh, what a grace! May it be sufficient to such an expiration! Lord, if I am allowed to begin again the interrupted labors of my ministry, let me resume them on a new plan, or rather under a new inspiration, and devote more conscientiously, more faithfully than heretofore the remainder of my life to thy blessed service?

When Jesus preaches deliverance to the captives the chains are broken in the dominions of sin. He is a personal Savior, and acts for each man who trusts him. He is the Judge of nations, and is actively interested for truth and justice. He restrains the hearts of kings, who long to interfere in behalf of tyranny, and excites a noble sympathy for virtue in the hearts of his followers, and for this let us thank him evermore.

DIG DEEPER.—I dare avouch the saints know not the length and largeness of the sweet earnest, and to the sweet green sheaves before the harvest that might be had on this side of the water, if we would take more pains.

The greatest human happiness is still a flower that blossoms upon thorns. Often is it of so frail a nature, that hardly has it shown itself ere it withers away.

The best repentance for duty neglected is to get about another that is in danger of being neglected.

The Mining of Libby Prison.

General Neal Dow made a long and interesting speech at Portland, Maine, on Friday last, at the public reception given him by the citizens, and in the course of his remarks confirmed the report that the rebels in Richmond mined the Libby Prison at the approach of Kilpatrick's forces.

The following is General Dow's account of this barbarous act: "They told us of Kilpatrick's raid.—On the first of March arrangements had been made to receive him. And what do you suppose the arrangements were? To defend Richmond? Was that it? No. They mined Libby Prison, with the intention of blowing up it and us; to use their own phrase, 'to blow us to hell!' (Voice.) Is there proof of that? That is capable of proof. I cannot tell you how the act was intimated to us the next day, without betraying those from whom the intimation came. On the morning of Wednesday, March 23, after we had been informed of the gunpowder plot, Dick Turner, the Inspector of Military Prisons, was asked by many officers, at different times, if we were correctly informed, and he assured us it was true; that a large quantity of powder had been placed under the prison, to blow us up, if Kilpatrick had come in, and that it would be done yet if attempts were made to rescue us.

"Rev. Dr. Smith, President of Randolph Macon College, well known down South, and known in the North too as an able and influential man, came into the prison to visit Lieut. Colonel Nichols, of the 18th Connecticut regiment, with whom he was acquainted. He said that powder had been placed in the basement for the purpose of 'blowing us into atoms.' Col. Nichols did not believe it. Dr. Smith assured him it was so. He had then come from the office of Judge Ould, Commissioner of exchanges, who told him it was so. Rev. Dr. McCabe said the same thing to Col. Cesnola of the 4th New York Cavalry, and others. Some officers were in the kitchen at the back window, directly over the door leading into the cellar. Maj. Turner, the commandant of the prison—Dick Turner—and four or five rebel officers went into the cellar, and on coming out they remained a few moments at the door, and one of the rebel officers said, 'By G—, if you touch that off it will blow them to hell, sure enough!'"

On the morning we came away, Major Turner assured Captain Sawyer and Capt. Flynn, who were exchanged in connection with myself, that powder was there, and he said, "Rather than have you rescued I would have blown you to hell, even if we had gone there ourselves." At first we could not believe it; not that we did not suppose them capable of it. We did not suppose them fools enough to be guilty of an act like that. The destruction of 900 Federal officers in that way would not have been a fatal blow to the Union cause, but it would have drawn down upon them the execrations of all mankind; it would have united the northern people as one solid man, and would have filled the northern heart with an intense indignation, and when Richmond should be captured, it would have been utterly destroyed, and blotted out forever from the earth. At first, we could not believe that such an act could have been contemplated, but we now regard it as established by satisfactory proof. Such is the temper of the leaders of the rebellion! Such their character!

An Editor's Joke.

In the days of old Mycell, the publisher of the Newberryport Herald, a journal still alive and flourishing, the sheriff of old Essex, Philip Bagly, had been asked several times to pay up his arrears of subscription. At last he told Mycell that he would certainly "hand over" the next morning as sure as he lived. "If you don't get your money to-morrow you may be sure I am dead," said he. The morrow came and passed but no money. Judge of the Sheriff's feelings when, on the morning of the day after, he opened his Herald and saw announced the lamented decease of Philip Bagly, Esq., High Sheriff of the county Essex, with an obituary notice attached, giving the deceased credit for a good many excellent traits of character, but adding that he had one fault very much to be deplored: he was not punctual in paying the printer.

Bagly, without waiting for his breakfast, started for the Herald office.—On the way it struck him as singular that none of the many friends and acquaintances he met seemed to be surprised to see him. They must have read their morning's paper.—Was it possible they cared so little about him as to have forgotten already that he was no more? Full of perturbation, he entered the printing office, to deny that he was dead, in propria persona. "Why, Sheriff," exclaimed the facetious editor, "I thought that you were dead?" "Defunct," said the Sheriff, "what put that into your head?" "Did you not tell me—"

"Oh!—ah!—yes—I see," stammered the old Sheriff. Well, there's your money! And now contradict the report in your copy!" "That's not necessary, sir," said the joker—"it was only printed in your copy!"

The sheriff lived many years after this, and to the day of his death always took good care to pay the printer punctually.

LEGAL ADVERTISEMENTS.

Executor's Notice.

NOTICE is hereby given, that Letters Testamentary with the Will annexed, on the estate of Thomas Bigham, late of Slipperyrock township, Butler county, Pa., deceased, have been duly granted by the Register of said county to the undersigned, residents of said township; therefore, all persons indebted to said estate are requested to make payment, and those having claims to present them properly authenticated for settlement.

WILLIAM McNEAM,
THOS. STEPHENSON,
Executors.
March 2, 1864-5d.

Administrator's Notice.

LETTERS Testamentary on the estate of JOHN HOGG, late of Cherry township, Butler county, Pa., dec'd., having been granted to the undersigned, all persons having claims against the said estate, will make immediate payment, and all having claims against the same will please present them properly authenticated for settlement.

JANE H. HOGG,
Administrator.
Feb. 17, 1864-6d.

Professional Cards.

R. M. M'LURE,
Attorney at Law,
AND
PENSION AND CLAIM AGENT.
Office, N. E. corner of Diamond, Butler, Pa.
Feb. 3, 1864-1d.

J. D. M'JUNKIN,

Attorney at Law,
Also Licensed Claim Agent.
Office with E. M'Junkin, Esq., opposite the Pennsylvania Hotel, Butler, Pa.

McCANDLESS & GRAHAM,

Attorneys at Law.
Office on the South-west corner of the Diamond, Butler, Pa.
Also, CLAIM AGENTS for securing Pensions, Arrears of Pay and Bounty Money, for Soldiers, or if they are discharged, for those of their Representatives, on charge only collected.
Dec. 9, 1863-1d.

ASH & LYON,

Attorneys
WILL attend to the presentation of all claims for BOUNTY, BACK PAY, PENSIONS, &c.
Information by letter or otherwise, given cheerfully gratis. No charge in any case until the money is made. They have already received and paid over to applicants, thousands of dollars having been secured by their applications with each case and precedent that they are uniformly successful. Pensions should be applied for within one year from death or discharge.
P. O. Box 107, Butler, Pa.
Office on Main Street, opposite the Post Office, Butler, Pa.
Dec. 9, 1863-1d.

A. M. NEYMAN, M. D.,

Physician and Surgeon.
Office immediately opposite Walker's buildings, Butler, Pa.
Dec. 9, 1863-1d.

BUSINESS ADVERTISEMENTS.

NEW MARBLE SHOP.

THIS undersigned would respectfully inform the public, that he has opened a new Marble Shop and is now prepared to furnish in superior style, all kinds of Marble, Granite, &c., for Monuments and Grave Stones, of all descriptions. We will always have on hand a large stock of

American and Italian Marble, Nos. 1 & 2.
All work made on the shortest notice, and in the latest style.
Shop on Washington street, near the English Lutheran Church, Butler, Pa.
JOHN KOPP,
CHRISTIAN RYTH.
Butler, March 16, 1864-2m.

LANE, M'ABOY & CO.,

DEALERS IN FOREIGN AND
DOMESTIC DRY GOODS.
No. 140, Federal Street,
(SECOND DOOR BELOW NEW MARKET HOUSE).
Allegheny City, Pa.
Dec. 9, 1863-1d.

STOVES AND PLOUGHS.

WICKREIMER & REUBER, —Pom-
meroy, Pa. —Manufacturers of Stoves, Ploughs, and other castings are made on short notice, and at low prices. Their works are situated on the first floor North of Jack's Hotel, where you will find Stoves of all sizes and patterns. They also keep on hand a large stock of Ploughs, which they sell as cheap as they can be bought at any other establishment in the county.
Dec. 9, 1863-1d.

NEW HARNES SHOP.

HAVING opened a new Harness Shop, opposite Boy's Building, Butler, Pa., will keep constantly on hand, a large assortment of Saddles, Harness, and every thing in his line of business, which he offers at prices to suit the times. Work of all kinds manufactured to order, and repairing done on short notice.
Dec. 9, 1863-1d.

SURGEON DENTISTS.

DRS. S. R. & C. L. DIEFFENBACHER.
ARTIFICIAL dentures prepared to order, and inserted in one or two sittings, and guaranteed to remain in place until the natural teeth are restored. The undersigned desire to avail themselves of the latest improvements in dentistry, and should not fail to extract and adjust the teeth, and fill the holes with the best material, and in the best manner. Particular attention given to the extraction of teeth, and to the fitting of dentures, as operators who rank among the best. Charges moderate. Advice free of charge. Office—In Boy's Building, Federal Street, Butler, Pa.
Dec. 9, 1863-1d.

VOGEL'S HOUSE.

WILLIAM VOGEL, Proprietor.
THIS undersigned would respectfully inform the public generally, that he has erected a large and commodious brick building, on the site of the old and well known house, formerly occupied by him as a Tavern Stand. He has been at great expense in erecting and furnishing his new house, and flatters himself that he is now prepared to accommodate all who may desire to give him a call. Having ample room for one hundred persons, and stable for at least fifty horses, he would ask a continuance of the patronage of his friends.
Dec. 9, 1863-1d.

Watches, Clocks & Jewelry.

IF you want a good Watch, Clock, or set of good Jewelry, go to J. J. Sedwick, who can give you the very best. He keeps on hand a large stock of Watches, Clocks, and Jewelry of all styles, and in fact everything usually kept in a Jeweler's Shop. Repairing done on short notice.
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MISCELLANEOUS NOTICES.

RURAL HILL NURSERY,

NEAR BUTLER, PA.
THIS undersigned would respectfully inform the public generally, that he is now fully prepared to furnish them with the choicest variety and very best quality of all kinds of fruit trees. During the last summer he has made large additions to his stock of Fruit and Ornamental trees, and has on hand a larger and better quality of fruit trees than has ever been offered in this country. Consisting of

SUMMER, WINTER & FALL APPLES.

PEACHES, PEARs AND CHERRIES, also, STRAWBERRIES of the very finest quality—different kinds of Rhubarb. A splendid lot of Evergreens and a great variety of Promiscuous trees for ornament and shade. All of which, we propose to sell on reasonable terms, as the same quality and varieties can be had from any agency or establishment in the country.
J. R. C. SHARP,
JAN. 6, 1864.

R. C. SHARP,

DEALER IN
FRUIT & ORNAMENTAL TREES.
Is now prepared to fill orders for the Spring season, and to make a full supply of Stationery, and Fruit Cakes, and all other articles that may be required.

His trees will stand the test with those of the Best Nurseries in the Union.
He engages to deliver them in proper season, and in good order.
All that is necessary to ensure them to grow thriftily, and bear abundantly in a few seasons is

PROPER PLANTING.

Within the past two years, he has sold in this county THOUSANDS of TREES of every description; nearly all of which are now in a thriving condition. Some of his Dwarf Apples and Pears were this year

LOADED WITH LUSCIOUS FRUIT.

It costs but little to start a new orchard, while in a few years it is the most profitable spot on the farm. It will pay to cut off the old and diseased trees, and replace them with choice selections from the Nursery.—In a few years after, as the farmer looks upon his thriving orchard, laden with luscious fruit, he will be glad to have paid the small outlay for the trees.

Tin Cups.

He will say to himself with a self satisfied expression of contentment, "I've made one good investment in my life, my tin cups."
For particulars, address, R. C. SHARP, Butler, Pa.

The following well known gentlemen, have kindly permitted him to refer to them, as to his reliability as well as the quality of the trees:

Judge Stephenson, Centreville; John T. Bard, Centreville; John Plow, West, Pa.; John Bingham, Slipperyrock; Wm. McCafferty, Fairview; J. W. Hargy, Fairview; J. M. Zeigler, Henry; J. M. Hargy, Henry; Col. A. Low, E. M'Junkin, Cap. John Zeigler, L. S. Cummings, Butler; John Green, John M'Creary, Caylville, Henry; John Bull, Fort Washington, Pa.
Dec. 23, 3m.

1863 NEW GOODS, 1863.

FROM NEW YORK AND PHILADELPHIA.

AS CHEAP AS THE CHEAPEST.

AND AS GOOD AS THE BEST.

R. C. & J. L. M'ABOY.

Have just received at their establishment,
ON MAIN STREET, BUTLER, PA.,

A large and well selected stock of

SEASONABLE GOODS,

which they are selling at very low rates.

READ THE FOLLOWING CATALOGUE AND PROFIT THEREBY.

FOR THE LADIES.

Always on hand a large stock of Ladies goods, such as

COBBER CLOTH, ALPACAS, DE LANES, GINGHAMS, PRINTS, KERCHIEFS, NUBIES, GLOVES, &c.

FOR GENTLEMEN.

Always on hand Black Cloths, Fancy and Black Cassimeres, Table Cloths, Oil Cloths, Linen and Hemp Towels, Carpets, Curtains, Fringe, &c.

READY MADE CLOTHING.

Such as COATS, PANTS, VESTS and other garments.

Boots and Shoes,

HATS, CAPS & NECKTIES,

and a variety of other articles

HOUSEHOLD GOODS.

Such as Unbleached and Bleached Muslin, Linen and Cotton, Table Cloths, Oil Cloths, Linen and Hemp Towels, Carpets, Curtains, Fringe, &c.

Hardware, &c.

QUET TOWN OF BUTLER.

Baltimore, Philadelphia, New York and Pittsburgh.

Brought into the very midst of the

THE undersigned, at the earnest solicitation of his numerous friends and patrons, has become chairman of the committee for procuring articles necessary for the comfort and enjoyment of his fellow citizens, "in and about" this county and elsewhere.

He has the satisfaction of reporting himself once more to his friends and the public generally, that he has been successful in his efforts to procure a full supply of Stationery, and Fruit Cakes, and all other articles that may be required.

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REDICK'S DRUG STORE,

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