

The Farmer's Department.

Cultivation of the Soil.

In writing on physiology of the soil in our last number, we little thought that we should have an opportunity of seeing the question debated by the doctors, and in such a manner as to prove the great importance of the science.

At a recent meeting of the Fruit Grower's Society at Norristown, the question of cultivation was proposed, which was debated by Messrs. Saunders, Harrison, and others on the side of a principle in cultivation, while Messrs. Miller, Heines, and others contended that it was impossible to establish any principle.

Now we contend that there is a principle, founded upon Physiological facts, by which soil may be cultivated; by which means any fruit or crop may be successfully grown on the same land, but this condition depends upon the land receiving certain elements, which are necessary for the growth of the crop planted in it.

The mere fact of the land being stiff or open, clayey or sandy, rich or poor, makes but little difference in the final result. The result depends entirely upon the amount of food contained in, or supplied to the land. But is this condition ascertained? How are we to tell what the soil needs; and how are we to know what quantities will be sufficient?

We admit this requires observation and experience. But does not the end justify the means? Does a physician expect to be able to know the phases of every disease or mode of cure, until he has had a large experience, and much observation and study?

No more can a farmer become expert in his business, and know how to apply his fertilizers, until he has studied well the character of the land with which he has to deal; and not only this, but by study and experience has ascertained how the manures act upon their patient.

This we call Agricultural Physiology; an example may more clearly illustrate our meaning. A farmer has bought a tract of clayey land. He wishes on this to grow every thing, and appeals to the numerous authorities for information.

He finds there are but few crops recommended for clayey soils. He begins to fear he has purchased a bad bargain, but in for a penny in for a pound, is his rule, and he thinks manure may help it, and plentifully applies stable and barn-yard manure, and plants his crops.

The result is an entire failure; the crop does not yield sufficient to pay for the manure put on it. He gives up in despair, and proclaims the world that a clay soil is good for nothing; but he is mistaken. He has one of the best of unproductive soils to improve, and all it needs is to properly understand how to do it.

We can give but a general application; but this may show that the thing is plausible, and with a proper knowledge may be applied to any or all soils, no matter what their condition. First, it is necessary to see of what a clayey soil is composed. This will be found to be about three fourths alumina, one-eighth silica, and one eighth earthy matters.

The only fertilizers in their crude state for plant life are the earthy matters. The others must be supplied; they are potash, lime, ammonia, and magnesia, chlorine, phosphoric and sulphuric acids, and iron. Clayey soils are also retentive of moisture, and must be thoroughly under-drained. The failure in the case mentioned was occasioned by adding a retentive element to one which was overflowing with moisture, but stimulating, with an excess of ammonia already exhausted soil.

To the application of our medicines: we supply lime with slake lime or burnt oyster shells; potash by wood ashes; ammonia by stable and barn-yard manure; ground bones supply sufficient magnesia; then comes the generalizing elements: the lime and ammonia and potash supply sulphuric acid, while the bones and ammonia furnish phosphoric acid; the iron is generated from the alumina and silica.

The best that can be produced for the circumstances.

We only give it as an illustration of how soils are to be improved.

SHALL WE PLOW OUR ORCHARDS?—I am of the opinion that a plow is not a suitable implement to use in an orchard.

A few years since, after having plowed my orchard about every way, and harrowed it in the same, I seeded it to grass—but found the surface of the ground too uneven to seed down, without much labor with hoe and shovel to level the tree-banks, but at last, got it quite well done and I think it will stay done.

Now what will keep the trees in good growing condition? I have practiced mulching around the trees annually, which appears to be just what is needed. In winter or spring, probably mid-winter is better if snow will permit—take straw from the straw pile, after the cattle have trodden it under foot, and mixed the manure with it, and put it around the trees, at the rate of a wagon load to eight or ten trees, thick enough to keep down grass and weeds.

Consider whether the trees need much or little manure with the straw, and govern accordingly. If the orchard has been seeded down so long that the turf has become close and tough, I would take a pick or other implement and dig up the turf for several feet around the tree, replace the turf bottom-side up, and mulch as before.

This seems to be what is wanted to keep the soil loose and enrich it as much as necessary. If fact, it seems to be what new rum was said to be in my boyhood—good in wet weather, and good in dry weather; good in hot weather, and good in cold weather; finally, good all the time. I shall practice this method a while longer, and if I discover my orchard to be running down, and cannot find a better preventive I shall again resort to the plow.—Cor. of Wis. Farmer.

The Judge's Saw Log.

In the village of Wagon lived a man who had once been the judge of the county, and was known all over by the name of Judge E. He kept a store and saw mill, and was always sure to have the best of the bargain on his side, by which means he gained an ample competence, and some did not hesitate to call him "the biggest rascal in the world." He was very conceited, and used to delight in bragging of his business capacity when any one was near to listen.

One rainy day, quite a number were seated around the stove in the store, and he began, as usual, to tell of his great bargains, and wound up with—"Nobody ever cheated me, nor they can't neither."

"Judge," said an old man in the company, "I have cheated you more than you ever did me."

"How so?" asked the Judge.

"If you'll promise you won't go to law about it, nor nothin', I'll tell, or else I won't; you are two much of a law character for me."

"Let her hear! let her hear!" cried half a dozen voices. "We'll hear you out of it—go on."

Educational Department.

Home Instruction.

Jean Paul Richter says, in his *Levana*, that "the parent's hand may cover and shelter the germinating seed, but not the luxuriant tree; consequently first faults are the greatest; and mental maladies unlike the small pox, are the more dangerous the earlier they are taken." One can hardly realize, who does not reflect attentively, how large a portion of the knowledge which is obtained through the senses, is acquired during very tender years, and consequently how much the after-life is influenced and shaped by these early impressions.

Jean Paul has not inaptly compared them to the germinating seed. What a child sees and hears during the first four or five years of life, constitutes by far the largest portion of the perceptions which he ever acquires, and not unfrequently determines his future thinking and acting. The language of Richter is again applicable:—"The words that the father speaks to his children in the privacy of home are not heard by the world; but as in whispering galleries, they are clearly heard at the end and by posterity."

The intercourse of the father with his children is often very unnatural and un-fatherly. He does not draw them about him and cultivate their social qualities.—He fails to supply daily food for their growing minds and hearts. And does he not often come to them with a tired, perplexed, yea, even a severe and repulsive demeanor? Are they not awed into silence in his presence and glad to escape from his atmosphere into one of less restraint? Children are often more in sympathy with, and under the influence of, ignorant and sometimes vicious servants than they are with their own parents.

But what is the remedy? A reflecting parent will readily discern. Consider, in the first place, that the soul of the child is to be fed and clothed as well as his body. You could not bear to hear your child cry for bread, and see him pinched with the cold. Can it be that you are deaf to the complaint of his higher, his immortal nature?

What are the wants of his nature?—They are simple but not the less imperative. Milk and water is not an invigorating article of diet for a strong man; but it is just suited to the infant, and is just as necessary to its growth as the concentrated food of manhood.

Did you ever know a child that would not listen to a story? How many tears have been shed and heart-emotions awakened by the recital of some of the simple stories of the Bible! What child is not interested to know about the sea and its many wonders? The perils of those who go down upon the great deep? The wild animals that roam the forest—their natures, their instincts, and their encounters with each other and with man?

The child's nature, too, is quickly touched by the recital of a noble or generous deed. He is alive to the sentiments of heroism and philanthropy. His young heart is thrilled with noble thoughts.

"I never robbed you of any wagon!" exclaimed the Judge; "I only got my own."

"Well, I had made up my mind to have it back, and—"

"But you never did!" cried the Judge.

"Yes, I did, with interest, too."

"How?" thundered the now enraged Judge.

LEGAL ADVERTISEMENTS.

Executors Notice. WHEREAS Letters Testamentary have this day been granted to the undersigned, on the estate of Wm. McDonald, late of Lancaster Tp., Butler county Pa., deceased, therefore I hereby give notice to all persons having claims against the same, to present them duly authenticated for settlement.

Orphan's Court Sale. BY virtue of an order and decree of the Orphan's Court of Butler county, Pa., made on the 24th day of June, A. D. 1864, at 1 o'clock, P. M., of said day, fifty acres of land to be held of the east end of a larger tract of land situated in Allegheny Tp., said county, bounded by lands of Dr. Crawford by lands of Alex and Wm. Grant, Alex Coulter, Thomas Grant and others.

Orphan's Court Sale. BY virtue of an order and decree of the Orphan's Court of Butler county, Pa., made on the 24th day of June, A. D. 1864, at 1 o'clock, P. M., of said day, sixty acres of land to be held of the east end of a larger tract of land situated in Allegheny Tp., said county, bounded by lands of Dr. Crawford by lands of Alex and Wm. Grant, Alex Coulter, Thomas Grant and others.

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Administrator's Notice. Estate of Isaac Stillwagon, dec'd. WHEREAS Letters of Administration have this day been granted to the undersigned on the estate of Isaac Stillwagon, late of Allegheny Tp., Butler county Pa., deceased, therefore all persons knowing themselves indebted to said estate will please make immediate payment without delay, to the undersigned, at his office, on or before the 27th day of July, A. D. 1864, at 1 o'clock, P. M., of said day, at which time the same will be taken up for settlement.

Guardians Sale. BY virtue of an order and decree of the Orphan's Court of Butler county, Pa., made on the 24th day of June, A. D. 1864, at 1 o'clock, P. M., of said day, the following tract of land, to be held of the east end of a larger tract of land situated in Allegheny Tp., said county, bounded by lands of Dr. Crawford by lands of Alex and Wm. Grant, Alex Coulter, Thomas Grant and others.

Business Advertisements. NEW MARBLE SHOP. THE 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 monuments and grave stones, of all descriptions. We will always have on hand a large stock of American and Italian Marble, Nos. 1 & 2.

LANE, MABOY & CO. DEALERS IN FOREIGN AND DOMESTIC DRY GOODS. No. 140, Federal Street. (SECOND FLOOR BELOW NEW MARKET STREET.)

Allegany City, Pa. STOVES AND PLOUGHS. WRECKREITER & REBER. Foundry and Machine Shop, opposite Boyd's Building, Butler, Pa. We keep on hand a large stock of Ploughs, Stoves, and all kinds of machinery, and are prepared to repair and rebuild any of our establishments in the county.

NEW HARNESS SHOP. HARNESSES AND SADDLES. JNO. A. SEDWICK. HAVING opened a new Harness Shop, opposite Boyd's Building, Butler, Pa., will keep on hand a large stock of Harnesses, Saddles, and every thing in his line of business, which he offers at prices to suit the times. Works of all kinds made and repaired done on short notice.

SURGEON DENTIST'S. DR. S. R. & C. L. DIEFFENBACHER. ARE prepared to insert artificial teeth in the most improved manner on the latest improved plates, and also to repair and rebuild any of our establishments in the county.

VOGELY HOUSE. WILLIAM VOGELY, Proprietor. THE undersigned would respectfully inform the public generally, that he has erected a large and commodious brick building, on the site of the old well known one, formerly occupied by him as a Tavern. It has been built at great expense in erecting and furnishing his new house, and is fitted up in the most improved manner to accommodate all who may desire to give him a call. Having ample room for one hundred persons, and stabling for at least fifty horses.

Watches, Clocks & Jewelry. IF you want a good Watch, Clock, or set of good Jewelry, go to G. J. Sedwick, who can give you the very best at the lowest price. He keeps on hand a large stock of Watches, Clocks, and Jewelry of all styles, and in fact everything usually kept in a Jewelry Store. Repairing done on short notice.

HAVE YOU SEEN THIS? I have situated, gratefully to all his old friends, and to all those who have favored him with their patronage, a large stock of Watches, Clocks, and Jewelry, and is prepared to repair and rebuild any of our establishments in the county.

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MISCELLANEOUS NOTICES.

RURAL HILL NURSERY, NEAR BUTLER, PA. THE undersigned would respectfully inform the public generally, that he has 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 and variety than has ever been offered in this county.

FRUIT & ORNAMENTAL TREES. IS now prepared to fill orders for the Spring planting on terms with which no other Fruit Agent can compete for. FRESHNESS, VIGOR, SIZE AND SYMMETRY.

R. C. SHARP, DEALER IN FRUIT & ORNAMENTAL TREES. IS now prepared to fill orders for the Spring planting on terms with which no other Fruit Agent can compete for. FRESHNESS, VIGOR, SIZE AND SYMMETRY.

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.

Tin Cups. he will sell to himself with a self satisfied expression of contentment, "I've made one good investment in my life, and that is in Tin Cups."

CHEAP DRUG STORE. DR. JAMES H. BELL. Boy's Building, Butler, Pa. DEALER in all kinds of Foreign and Domestic Medicines, Oils, Paints and Varnishes. Also, Benzole, Turpentine, and all kinds of Chemicals. All kinds of Lamps, Lamp Shades and Chimneys. Also, a full assortment of Groceries, Tobacco and Cigars of the very best brands.

REDICK'S DRUG STORE, Opposite Stine's Store. MEDICINES, DRUGS, PAINTS, DYES, PAINTS, PURE LIQUORS FOR MEDICAL USE ONLY.

EMPORIUM OF FASHION, ON MAIN STREET. Opposite Boyd's Buildings, Butler, Pa. THE undersigned would respectfully inform the public, that he has now fully prepared to furnish them with the choicest variety and very best quality of all kinds of fruit trees.

NOTICE. W. S. & A. G. BOYD, having sold out their entire stock of goods to George Ober and Adam Trower, do, nevertheless, continue to receive orders for all their goods, and to deliver them to the purchasers, until the 1st of April, 1865.

JACK'S HOTEL. F. S. MAGEE, Proprietor. Corner of Main and Jefferson Streets, Butler, Pa. Wall Paper.

PROFESSIONAL CARDS. W. H. H. RIDGLE, Attorney and Counselor at Law, WILL, with the least possible delay, attend to all business entrusted to his care. Collections promptly made, and all legal business conducted with dispatch.

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

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

ASB & LYON, Attorneys, WILL attend to the prosecution of all claims for BOUNTY, BACK PAY, PENSIONS, and all other claims of the Government.

A. M. NEYMAN, M. D. Physician and Surgeon. Office immediately opposite Walker's buildings, Butler, Pa. Dec. 9, 1863.

IMPORTANT NOTICES.

NOTICE TO FARMERS! THE subscriber respectfully informs the citizens of Butler County, and the public generally, that he is prepared to furnish them with the choicest variety and very best quality of all kinds of fruit trees.

Ring Bone and Bone Spavin, with one slight application, in from six to Nine days, without injuring the Horse the least. The subscriber will also cure the above diseases, for which a Copy Right was secured.

Farm for Sale. THE subscriber offers for sale, his farm situated in Penn. seven miles south of Lancaster, containing 100 acres and 27 acres of which are cleared, under good improvement and in a high state of cultivation, 8000 bushels of wheat, 4000 bushels of corn, 1500 bushels of clover, 1500 bushels of timothy, 1500 bushels of alfalfa, 1500 bushels of clover, 1500 bushels of timothy, 1500 bushels of alfalfa.

COUNTRY MERCHANTS, CALL AT Heineken's Book Store, And buy GODEY'S Series of School Books at Publishers' Prices. Always on hand, a full supply of Stationery and Envelopes, at wholesale and retail, cheap for cash. Call and examine our purchasing show-rooms. No trouble to show goods.

Auditor's Notice. IN the matter of the petition of Henry Boyer, Adm'r. of John Boyer, dec'd., for an Auditor to distribute the same in his hands per account filed in the Register's office, No. 83, Sept. Term, 1863, O. C. Dec. 10, 1864.

THE TRIBUNE FOR 1864. PROSPECTUS. The New York Tribune, first published on April 10, 1841, has today a larger aggregate circulation than any other newspaper published in America, or we believe in the world.

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PERIODICAL NOTICES.

Terms reduced to Old Prices GODEY'S LADY'S BOOK For 1864. Great Literary and Pictorial Year!

The publisher of Godey's Lady's Book, thankful that the public which has enabled him to publish a magazine for the last thirty-four years, has so far continued to support him in America, has made an arrangement with the most popular author of the day, MRS. MARY HARRISON, who will furnish stories for the Lady's Book for 1864.

THE LITERATURE OF THE LITERATURE. is of that kind that can be read aloud in the family circle, and is elegantly illustrated in numbers and subscribers for the Book.

THE MUSIC. is all original, and would cost 25 cents (the price of the Book) in the music stores; but most of it is copyrighted, and cannot be copied except in the original.

OUR STEEL ENGRAVINGS. All efforts to rival us in this have failed, and we now stand as the best and most popular of our kind in America.

IMMENSE DOUBLE SHEET FASHION-PLATES. FROM Five to seven full length Colored Fashions on each plate. Other smaller plates, singly or in sets.

THE PUBLICATION OF THESE PLATES COSTS 80,000 MORE than Fashion-plates of the old style, and nothing but our superior engraving and illustration can give them the popularity which they have attained.

TERMS, CASH IN ADVANCE. TO ANY POST-OFFICE IN THE UNITED STATES. One copy one year, \$3. Two copies one year, \$5. Three copies one year, \$7. Five copies one year, \$10. Ten copies one year, \$18.

A Family and Agricultural Journal, DEVOTED TO CHOICE LITERATURE, INCLUDING Poetry, Novels, Tales, AND MORAL AND ENTERTAINING READING GENERALLY.

AGRICULTURE & HORTICULTURE. FARMING, GARDENING, FRUIT-RAISING, &c. In all their branches, as conducted on the latest and most approved systems.

NEWS DEPARTMENT. The same industry, care, and discrimination, in gathering and preparing the stirring events of the Day, expressly for this paper, which hitherto has been one of the most popular and useful of our kind.

WAVEY MAGAZINE. FOR FAMILY AMUSEMENT AND ENTERTAINMENT. Edited by Moses A. Dow. This paper is the largest weekly ever published in the country. Its contents are such as will be approved by the most refined and cultivated minds.

ARTHUR'S HOME MAGAZINE. For 1864. Edited by T. S. ARTHUR AND VIRGINIA F. TOWNSEND. VOL. XXIII. AND XXIV. The HOME MAGAZINE for 1864 will be conducted in the same spirit that has distinguished it for the past three years.

HORSES AND MARES WANTED. THE undersigned will be in Butler, on MONDAY, Dec. 13, 1864, for the purpose of purchasing good horses and mares.

HORSES AND MARES. Bring them in and get your money. BRACKENRIDGE & CO. March 28, 1864.

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