

Agriculture, &c.

EXTRACTS

FROM THE MONTHLY REPORT OF THE DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE, WASHINGTON, D. C.

The great agricultural lesson of the season inculcates the necessity of draining and thorough culture. It is not an exaggeration to estimate the reduction this season, from the alternate drowning and scorching of farm crops, at two hundred millions of dollars.

One specimen of draining is described thus:—The whole track—10 acres—is underdrained with tile placed at an average distance of forty feet apart, and at the depth of four feet.

The Report states that from a single county in the State of New York, 4842 tons of Rye Straw were shipped. This went to neighboring counties to be worked up into paper.

NOTE.—This straw is worked up into packing and printing paper. Thus it brings to farmers a higher price than their hay.

THE WORKING MAN.

The noblest men I know on earth Are men whose hands are brown with toil; Who, backed by no ancestral groves, Hew down the wood and till the soil;

The working men, whate'er the task, Who carve the stone, or bear the hod, They bear upon their honest brows The royal stamp and seal of God;

God bless the noble working men, Who rear the cities of the plain, Who dig the mines, who build the ships, And drive the commerce of the main.

PURIFYING CISTERN WATER.

Cistern water becomes foul and offensive, because it contains a large amount of organic matter derived from the roofs of the houses, absorbed from the air, etc. This matter may be in the form of germs, or it may be in the process of growth or decay.

The first object cannot always be accomplished, as no simple filter would separate germs, and even if separated the water could not be kept for use unexposed to the air. An effectual method of purification is accomplished by chemical destruction.

precipitated as an inert and harmless sediment. The chemical reaction is marked by a purple coloring of the solution, and this color indicates the presence of organic matter.

MAKING HAY WITHOUT THE SUN.—An apparatus had been contrived in England, by which new-mown grass is placed in a strong current of hot air, set in motion by a fan, so that moist grass may be converted into the best quality of hay in ten minutes.

EVERGREEN trees should not be transplanted, till about June 1st, or a few days later. A couple of heavy, flat stones placed against their trunks when set, one on each side, will prevent the roots being loosened by the wind swaying the branches of the trees.

MESSANGER ALMANACK.

Table with columns for Day, SUN., MOON., HIGH WATER AT, and WINDSOR. Includes dates from November 21st to December 4th, 1869.

For the time of HIGH WATER at Pictou, Purgash, Walk ce and Yarmouth add 2 hours to the time at Halifax.

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