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AGRICULTURAL.

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ANIMAL AND VEGETABLE CONSTITUENTS.

Every constituent of the bodies both of men and animals is derived from plants. The vital principle possesses not the power of generating a single element. All the organic constituents of the animal body must therefore be contemplated as manure. All the inorganic corpuscles or atoms of the vegetable structure not required in the operation of the animal economy, or for the perfection and sustenance of the system, are ejected as excrements. On the final dissolution of the body by death, the chemical affinities which have been kept in check by the vital and energising principle, resume their play; putrefaction ensues, and their nitrogen and carbon fly off in the form of ammonia and carbonic acid. These are the products of putrefaction, and nothing finally remains of the animal structure but the phosphates, and the salts of bones.

It is a doctrine of philosophy that all that has been abstracted from the soil, must, in some way, and at some time, be returned to it; hence the residuum of all substances that have been animated by the vital and identifying principle of life, must act as a manure, whether of an animal or vegetable character. Still the inquiry is important, especially to the practical Agriculturist, whether the excrementitious matters from animals, commonly employed in agrestic operations as substances of enrichment, are valuable in an equal degree; or whether they are all of a cognate character, and capable of acting with equal efficiency and power when applied to the soil. This point is easily ascertained by experiment, and by chemically unfolding the constituents of which they are severally composed. All soils subjected to long or excessive cropping, without an annual supply, become exhausted of their humus—a substance supplied by the decayed vegetable or animal matter, which, in a state of nature, or non-cultivation, is annually produced and returned by the spontaneous action of the soil through the simple agency of its own recuperative powers. When, however, the soil is subjected to cultivation, and its natural energies are exhausted by the removal and consumption of the produce, an exhaustion of its vital energies ensues, which must be supplied by manure. These excrementitious matters, therefore, when applied, soon fill the void created by the draft of the growing crop. The three elements—ammonia, carbonic acid and water, contain all the principles out of which are eliminated the organized parts of plants. The same elements, also, in different ratios of combination, constitute the entire organized structure of the animal frame. This fact being established, the presumption is natural and rational, that "the conditions essential to the growth of both, are the same; in fact, that the food consumed by animals and vegetables would prove essentially similar; and such indeed, is the actual fact. The process of digestion in an animal, is precisely identical with the process of appropriation and assimilation in the plant.—Certain inorganic substances—salts and metallic oxides serve particular uses, as lime, to give solidity to the bones of the ox, and silica, or the earth of flints, to subserve a similar end in wheat straw."

Of the elementary or ultimate constituents of vegetables are found a variety of immediate compounds; such as albumen, gum, sugar, gluten, woody fibre, starch, extractive matter, wax, resin, fixed and volatile oils, bitter principle, free acids, together with a few others. In addition to these, vegetables likewise contain mineral saline and metallic substance. These elementary constituents compose both the vegetable and animal structure, and from them are formed the matters constituting the vital fluid, all the various secretions, fibrin, albumen, gelatin, mucus and the acids of the animal frame, as well, also, as spermacein, hair oil, hog's lard, and all fatty substances; ozmazonic, sugar of milk and urea.

"Sugar," remarked a celebrated chemist, "is essentially the same whether derived from the maple tree, the sugar cane, or the milk of animals. Its composition is 28 carbon, 8 hydrogen, 64 oxygen, in 100 parts—differing not very widely from gum. A like similarity exists between the constituents of vegetable gluten and animal gluten. In the plant known as the *Hybiscus escentis*, there exists a principle of albumen, so resembling the albumen of animals, that it is frequently used as a substitute for it in the arts, and for other purposes. Its constituents, from whatever source obtained, are—carbon 52, hydrogen 7, oxygen 23, nitrogen 15 parts in every 100." I might follow this similarity much farther; but enough has been

said to convince the most sceptical, I presume, that the relationship between the animal and vegetable kingdom is much more close and intimate than many have hitherto been accustomed to suppose. He will also perceive that in enriching his soils, and preparing them for the production of future crops, everything that has possessed the principle of life, is endowed with fructifying energies, and is consequently valuable as a pabulum or food for vegetation. No matter what may be its specific character, all organized matter is resolvable into manure. Every farmer should calculate to have a sufficiency of manure on hand to supply, liberally, every demand of the soil he cultivates. This he can easily secure by industry, if he only comprehends aright the extent of the resources he is possessed of, and the means of rendering them available in the great work in which he is engaged. No man ever yet was a loser by feeding his crops liberally, and no one, of industrious and frugal habits, ever became poor from tilling a productive soil.

FARMING SCENE IN THE WEST.—About eight years ago a Dutchman, whose only English was a good natured "yes" to every possible question, got employment here as a stableman. His wages, six dollars, and board; that was thirty-six dollars in six months, for not one cent did he spend. He washed his own shirt and stockings, mended and patched his own breeches, paid for his tobacco by odd jobs, and laid by his own wages.—The next six months, being now able to talk good English, he obtained eight dollars a month, and at the end of six more had forty-eight dollars. The second year, by varying his employment—saving wood in winter, working for the corporation in the summer, and making gardens in the spring—he laid by a hundred dollars; and the next year one hundred and fifty-five dollars. With this, he bought 80 acres of land. It was as wild as when the deer fled over it and the Indians pursued him. How should he get a living while clearing it. Thus he did it, he hires a man to clear and fence ten acres; he himself remains in town to earn the money to pay for the clearing. Behold him already risen a degree—he is an employer! In two years' time he has twenty acres well cleared, a log house and money enough to buy stock and tools. He now rises another step in the world, for he gets married, and with his amply broad-faced good-natured wife, he gives up the town and is now a regular farmer. In Germany he owned nothing, and never could; his wages were merely nominal, his diet chiefly vegetables, and his prospect was, that he would be obliged to labour as a menial for life, barely earning a subsistence, and not leaving enough to bury him. In five years he has become the owner in fee simple of a good farm, with comfortable fixtures, a prospect of rural wealth, an independent life, and, by the blessing of heaven and his wife, of an endless posterity. Two words tell the story—industry and economy. These two words will make any man rich in the West.—*Indiana Farmer.*

THE THREE THOUSAND A YEAR LEGACY.—Mr. Dean, of Stirlingbourne, a Protestant Dissenter, having written to Dr. Wiseman with reference to a statement in the *Daily News*, "that the late Mr. Taylor of Weybridge, had been induced, in his latter days, to disinherit his own son and leave his estate, of the value of £3000 per annum to Dr. Wiseman?" the Doctor wrote a reply containing the following passage:—"You will, doubtless, be surprised to hear that I never in my life saw, nor spoke to, nor corresponded with the late Mr. Taylor, of Weybridge; that he died before I came to London; nor had any connexion with the Catholic Church here; and that I am not named in his Will. Since coming to London I have had the pleasure of making the acquaintance of his excellent family, have visited them at Weybridge, where they are kind enough to receive me at any time, and am on terms of perfect good understanding with Mr. James Taylor the supposed disinherited son, who, with his sisters, enjoys every farthing of his father's property. He has kindly, and unsolicited, offered to give any contradiction to the calumny."

On this the *Morning Herald* remarks:—"Dr. Wiseman's 'most candid letter' informs us that he was not personally known to the late Mr. Taylor, never saw him nor corresponded with him, and that he was 'not named in his will.' All this, we dare say, is literally true; and yet behind all this there lurks a concealed, but fearful fact. A legal friend of ours happened, only a few days ago, to be overhauling Mr. Taylor's Will, out of mere curiosity to see what all this bother was about. And this Will, he informs us, bequeaths the whole of his property to his children, for their lives; and after their decease the

estate at Weybridge, and some land and eighteen houses at Islington, to the use of the Rev. Dr. Griffiths, Vicar-apostolic of the Romish Church for the London district, for the time being; which Vicar-apostolic, we believe, is no other than Dr. Wiseman! So then, it is substantially true, as the *Daily News* said the Romish Church gets the estate, and the children are merely tenants for life. Of all this Dr. Wiseman, in his "most candid and satisfactory letter," said not one word. Oh, no! Mr. James Taylor, the supposed disinherited son, with his sisters, enjoys every farthing of his father's property.—"Enjoys!" but in what capacity? As "tenants for life," the Romish Church having taken care to get hold of the estate in perpetuity. As to Mr. James Taylor and his sisters supposing them to have families, how much of all this estate will their children "enjoy!"

ANOTHER MISERMILLIONAIRE—AURI SACRA FAMES.—The journals of the country have been filled of late with the eccentricities of a rich old miser named McDonough, who died a few weeks since in Louisiana. America has produced a great many of these eccentric characters, whose morbid acquisitiveness has made them the wonder of mankind. The ancients had divinities of evil as well as of goodness, to whom they erected altars and offered sacrifices; hence doubtless, the phrase used by Virgil, quoted above, to designate this unnatural appetite, of which McDonough furnished such a curious illustration. Another case, scarcely less remarkable than his, has just become public in Illinois, in the person of Jacob Strawn, of Jacksonville, a very extensive landholder and cattle-dealer, and probably the wealthiest citizen of the State of Illinois. He is the owner of forty thousand acres of land in the State, and his agricultural and other business transactions have been of an extent corresponding with his landed possessions. For years he has been by far the most extensive cattle dealer in that, or any of the Western States, and has, by continued and the most unremitting exertions, accumulated a princely fortune. Mr. Strawn has been even more extensively known for his eccentricities of character, than for his great wealth. For days and nights in succession, he has been known to pursue his business without intermission, never sleeping, unless while riding in the saddle. He chose his wife as he would a farm or lot of cattle, by mere inspection of her person, selecting her from among her sisters, who were called to the door at his request, and married her without any more of ceremony than was necessary to complete a monied transaction, and conform to the laws of the State. Every thing with him was a matter of money and business, pursuing these and these only at the sacrifice of every thing else; indeed, attaching no value to anything which could not be measured by a pecuniary standard. The St. Louis "Union," of the 16th inst., states that Strawn was brought down the Illinois river the day before, a maniac in charge of some of his friends, who were trying to convey him to the Lunatic Asylum at Columbus, Ohio. His insanity was brought on by the terrible tasks to which every energy of his mind and body had been subjected for years in the pursuit of wealth. In order to induce him to travel in the direction of Columbus without violence it had been necessary, says the St. Louis paper, to deceive him by the promise of great rewards for accompanying his protectors. Even in this his all-absorbing passion was predominant. Bonds to a large amount, with large penalties in case of breach of contract, were regularly executed to secure him the compensation agreed upon. Even before leaving the boat, and with the appearance of a correct regard to business, he had the agreement read—re-read himself—and called the attention of the bystanders to see that everything was correctly and explicitly understood. "And this" continues the print above quoted, "is the value of wealth! Life, health, great energy, everything devoted to the utmost stretch to secure immense possessions, and to enjoy nothing. Truly, after all, there are greater slaves than those who come and go, and labour at the bidding of another. There are those who are poorer than they who are fed by the slow and unwilling hand of charity, and there are none more to be pitied than those who bow down in adoration of their countless thousands, knowing neither comfort, pleasure, recreation nor intellectual enjoyment, in aught besides their treasures!"

ADDRESS TO THE QUEEN FROM THE WOMEN OF LIVERPOOL.—An Address, ably drawn up, from the women of Liverpool to the Queen against the Papal aggression is at present in course of signature in the town. "The practice of private auricular confession" seems to shock the ladies more than all the other terrors of Popery.