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Devoted to Agriculture, Literature, and General Intelligence.

Published and Edited]

"Our Queen and Constitution."

[By James S. Segee.

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PROSPECTUS.

A Weekly Paper Entitled

"THE REFORMER,"

will immediately be published in

WOODSTOCK.

It will be chiefly devoted to our AGRICULTURAL, EDUCATIONAL, and COMMERCIAL interests. To some extent it is intended also that "THE REFORMER" shall be a

LITERARY and SCIENTIFIC JOURNAL.

It will from time to time contain notices of the first literary productions of the age, and of improvements and discoveries in

SCIENCE and ART.

Special attention will be given in this paper to all topics and questions more immediately affecting this Country. During the sitting of the Legislature, "THE REFORMER" will contain abstracts of the debates in both Houses.

"THE REFORMER" will not be the advocate of any (if such there be) existing Provincial political party. It will treat political questions without any partisan spirit.

The necessity of some radical change in the Law regulating the election of Representatives in General Assembly, will be strongly urged in "THE REFORMER." The bribery, corruption, and tyranny which have prevailed at recent elections are disgraceful to the Country. The adoption of the system of voting by ballot may in some degree obviate these evils. The extension of the Electoral Franchise is justly called for by large numbers of persons not inferior in intelligence and respectability to those now entitled to vote at the election of Representatives in the General Assembly. In a Country where land is comparatively cheap, the land-holder does not necessarily possess a greater stake or is more interested in the prosperity of the Country than the possessor of any considerable amount of personal property. The right of rate payers on personal property, with certain restrictions, to enjoy the privilege now confined to land-holders, will be maintained in "THE REFORMER."

If our Country is rapidly and securely to advance, it must be by an improved system of Agriculture; by a thorough reformation in the Common School system; by placing our commercial relations with foreign countries on a proper footing, and by inculcating habits of reliance on ourselves and resources. By such means will "THE REFORMER" endeavor to lead New-Brunswick to improve their condition, and make for themselves a Country of which they need not be ashamed.

Woodstock, March 12, 1853.

NOW IS YOUR TIME
—TO BUY—

GOODS CHEAP.

THE Subscriber will continue to sell the remainder of his Stock of GOODS at cost until further notice.

Persons would do well to call before purchasing elsewhere as the price and quality must please.
April 9. GEO. S. WINTER.

Agricultural.

SLAKED LIME AND MUCK AS A MANURE.

A correspondent has made the inquiry, whether slaked lime, if mixed with the vegetable production found in our swamps, termed muck, would prove beneficial to the soil as a manure. Our answer is in the affirmative; and we would confidently recommend the process when ever it is practicable. The reason why this vegetable material, when mingled with the soil in its pure condition, is of so little utility, is altogether owing to the circumstance of its containing a considerable quantity of resinous matter in its composition, which consequently prevents it from undergoing so ready a decomposition as is necessarily required. But by the addition of slaked lime, or ashes, to the ingredients, the lime or the potash or ashes combining with the resin, embraced in such quantities in the muck, produces a soap which is soluble in water, and easily becomes washed from the woody fibres that it contains, leaving the undecaying materials to the free action of moisture, and those other agents which facilitate its decomposition; consequently, slaked lime united with muck should be recommended, but it will not answer so well to mix with any other manures differing materially from it, and which may owe their fertilizing properties to nitrogen. In this latter case, ammonia will be formed, and speedily pass off, to be dispersed in the atmosphere.—Country-Gentleman.

FOOD OF PLANTS.

It is very desirable in supplying manure to vegetables, that we should be able to give them just such food as nature ordains. This, however, science alone can enable us to do. But every farmer is aware that while vegetable substances are formed by a combination of principles, or elementary matters, often numerous, and beyond their power to investigate, every individual plant is best nourished by its own substance. Thus, no manure is of greater value to the grape than its own foliage and tendrils. The haulm or tops of the potato, applied to it as a stimulant, give a degree of vigor which no other manure can impart, and so with other vegetables. Now, in supplying aliment to our crops, ought we not to keep this fact constantly in sight. Nature has herself supplied us with an obvious rule by which to regulate our operations in this important department of industrial pursuits, and it is one to which we should endeavor most sedulously to attend. By care in compounding manures, and in saving, and properly appropriating them we may effect a vast saving assuredly. The produce of a farm if returned to it in manure, and in conformity with this rule, would render it fertile beyond anything witnessed, or attainable under some of the present systems of management, which are improvident and wasteful in the last extreme. "A word to the wise," &c.—*German-town Telegraph.*

About Turnips—Seed for Sowing.

Before sowing your turnip seed, steep it for six hours in strong urine, decant the liquid, and mix as much flour of sulphur with the seed as will coat it. Seed prepared in this way will be in a great measure protected from the ravages of the turnip fly, and will germinate much quicker and more vigorously than if sown in its natural state.

The Turnip Fly.—This insidious insect deposits its eggs in the Fall of the year, but the

eggs do not hatch till the following Spring, when they are vivified by the warmth of the soil, and the young insect usually appears contemporaneously with the plant on which it is to feed. By stirring the surface of the soil a fortnight or so before the seed is sown, and affording a liberal dressing of sulphur, house ashes, soot, and salt in equal parts, as soon as the plants appear, it ravages will be prevented in a degree. The stirring of the soil lets in the solar heat, and the eggs are developed at once, but their being no food ready the young perish. This is thought to be the most effectual preventive known, and is almost universally adopted in Germany and Great Britain, as well as in many sections of the United States and France.—*lb.*

OATS AND CARROTS.

Why is it that our farmers do not pay more attention to the cultivation of the carrot? It has been demonstrated again and again that it is a highly nutritious vegetable—that stock of all kinds particularly milch cows do well on it,—that it increases the quantity and quality of the milk, adds to the flesh, and in given bulk contains much more than oats. In the transactions of the Worcester (Mass.) Agricultural Society, recently published, we find an estimate, showing the relative value of oats and carrots, from which it appears that the cost of raising an acre of carrots is about \$25 more than for an acre of oats. This is the basis of calculation. Now as a matter of profit see the result. Calling the oats 35 cts per bushel, we realize for the acre \$14. Estimating the carrots at half that, or 17 1/2 cts per bushel, we have \$87.50 worth of carrots per acre against \$14 worth of oats.

The calculation may possibly be extravagant as to the yield of carrots—but if half that quantity can be raised, (and we have no warrant for fixing so low a figure) there is still no comparison in the value of the profit.

Think of this farmers! Do more,—try it, and take our word for it you will not have cause to regret the experiment.—*Ohio Farmer.*

REMEDY FOR THE ONION WORM.

MR. EDITOR,—I noticed in your paper of September 2d, a communication relative to the worm in onions, and with your permission, I will relate a little personal experience with regard to this troublesome insect.

I have found by repeated experiments that the common poppy, (papaver somniferum,) the seeds being sown with the onion seeds will prevent the attacks of the worm. My method has been when the poppies become so numerous or large as to prevent the growth of the onions to weed up a part of them, leaving the uprooted stalks near the bed. Perhaps you have some attentive readers of the other sex, (as some writers are pleased to denominate us,) who take pleasure in transplanting a cabbage or rearing a useful beet, as well as pruning a cactus or tying up the leaves of a lily. If so I should like to have them try this experiment.

Yours respectfully,

A FARMER'S DAUGHTER.

Temple, March, 15, 1853.

[Maine Farmer.

The quantity of ale and spirituous liquors produced in the United States in 1850 exceeds the enormous amount of 80,000,000 gallons and as our imports and exports just about balance each other, this would give a consumption equal to six gallons a head for every person old enough to drink them.

Melbourne, South Australia.

"The Great Britain, steam-ship arrived here on Friday last from Liverpool, bringing 800 passengers; they are first class people, quite respectable. Now for some facts in regard to business. In the first place the salaries in Melbourne have been lowered £100 per annum, owing to the failure of nine-tenths of the diggings. There are hundreds of diggers returning to Melbourne every day—I may say every hour; in fact it is awful. What the consequence will be I cannot tell. Nearly all the people who came out in the Great Britain have taken their passage back to England; they have not even removed their luggage from her. You will scarcely believe it when I tell you that no less than seven ships from England have arrived here since Sunday last, none bringing less than 300 and 400 passengers.—The addition to the population of Melbourne last week was 3600 souls, and out of them only a few are of a low description, or, what we term in England poor men. These people have nothing to do. The town is so full that they are giving only half the wages they were a month ago. You may see quite gentlemanly men hawking wood and water about for sale, and working on the roads. Out of the 200 who came out in the Blackfriar and went to the diggings, nearly all have returned, and those remaining are earning only enough money to subsist upon. Provisions are horribly dear—As to vegetables, we have had none until today, when we had 6lbs. of potatoes which cost us 9d. per lb. Celery is 3s. per head; a cabbage (such as you would not look at in England) 2s 6d; apples, 4s the lb.; oranges 1s each; eggs, 4s a doz. The newspapers print the average price of provisions. I send you with this a newspaper, in which you will see the increase of crime and horse-stealing. In fact the colony is getting bad altogether; and should the diggings fail I do not know what will be the consequence. The convicts shoot you in a moment if you attempt to take them. In fact it will be a complete California in a few months, if the diggings keep failing as they have for the last two months. I will tell you the nuisance we have to put up with in this delightful "Paradise." We have to sleep of a night with veils tied round our heads, to keep the mosquitoes and flies from us. In the room where I am writing there is such a buzz you cannot hear yourself speak. There are thousands of locusts, and great grasshoppers 3 inches long, flying through the air in the morning. They are very beautiful, I have tried to catch some to bring home for you. Summer is now coming on; thermometer 93 in the shade; hot winds blow from the interior. It is extremely hot, I cannot describe it, and swarms of these flies pass over completely darkening the air, with clouds of sand and dust for hours together. We have had these hot winds for three days and it is lightning and thundering at the present moment terrifically. Six more vessels have just arrived, one from New York, with a set of Californians, dreadful characters. Forty of the soldiers have deserted £30 a man is offered for their apprehensions."—*Cor. London paper.*

A NEW PLATFORM.—Charles B. Ferguson was a candidate for a constable in Georgetown township California. His friends issued an address in his favor and announced by authority, that he is in favor of the next war, opposed to the cholera, in favor of high salaries, and opposed to uncurrent money and poor brandy.—We have not heard the result of the election.