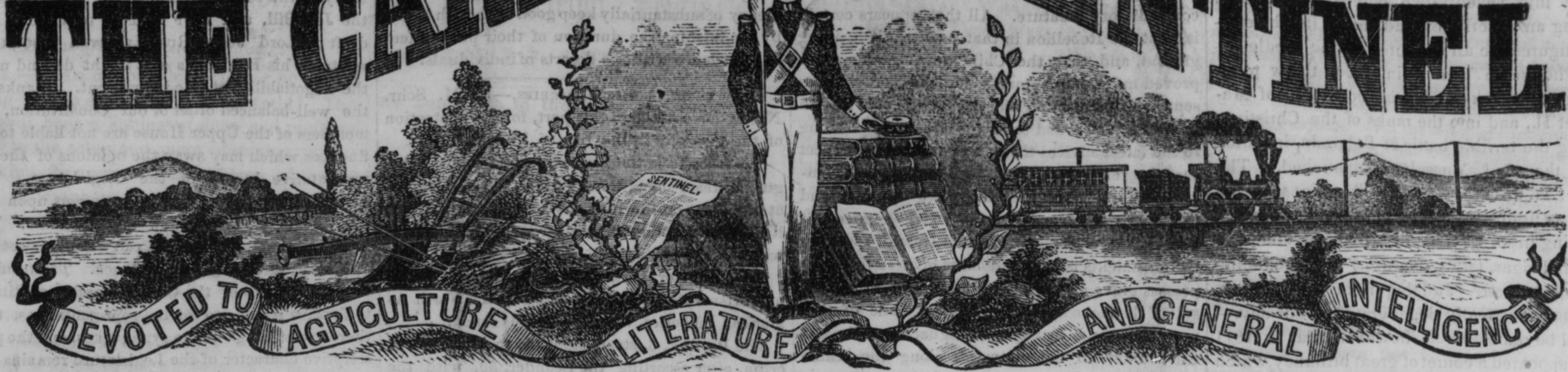


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## Agricultural.

### FARM WORK FOR JUNE.

Planting being over, there will be a little respite, a brief breathing place to look into all the affairs of the farm more leisurely, and attend to the smaller, but not minor, matters which the haste to get in the seeds has prevented. And first, let him who has had the forecast to plant a tree either this season or before, extend his care to it and extirpate its enemies—

**The Borers.**—They will make sad havoc with your fair orchard unless your own eye, and knife, and wire, and hand are active. Now is the time to dislodge them; by scraping the earth carefully away from the base of the tree and closely examining it, the spoiler may be discovered either by his hole, his castings, which resemble saw dust, or by some peculiar appearance of the tree. By inserting a small wire with the smallest possible hook upon its end, they may generally be drawn out; but if not brought to light the wire will kill them.

**Thistles, mulleins, dockroots, burdocks,** and all such rank herbage, will constantly spring up, especially about the buildings, unless the farmer is in the habit of destroying them. By neglect they sometimes cover large patches of excellent ground and render it worthless, beside disfiguring the premises and scattering their seeds over the farm. An hour or two at the right season will arrest them and save crop and character. The cure is to cut them off just below the surface and drop a handful of salt upon the bleeding wound; or sink the spade and start their roots and pull them up bodily. These, and the ox-eye daisy, or white weed, which is becoming so prevalent all over New England, should be wed out of the grain and grass fields upon their first appearance.

**Hoeing.**—No implement on the farm is in more demand than the hoe in the month of June. Get a good one and keep it smooth and bright. Let it be of the right weight, remembering that he "who makes with a common hoe, two thousand strokes an hour, should not wield a needless ounce. If any part is heavier than necessary, even to the amount of half an ounce only, he must repeatedly and continually lift the half ounce, so that the whole strength thus spent would be equal, in a day, to twelve hundred and fifty pounds, which ought to be exerted in stirring the soil and destroying the weeds." It is important, also, to see that the hoe stands just right, neither out nor in too much, but in that position which will enable the person to stand in an easy attitude while using it. Hoeing is of the utmost importance in farm husbandry. It keeps the ground in fine tilth, which is its proper condition to receive light and heat, and the important atmospheric influence.

**Weeds.**—These are merely grasses out of place. They get a great many kicks, cuts, and perhaps curses, from the indolent and thoughtless,—but they are really "blessings in disguise." How many fields and gardens would feel the plough and hoe, if no weeds appeared? and would present a hard, impervious crust, resisting all efforts of the genial sun or cooling dews to enter and feed the starving roots. But the weeds spring up as faithful monitors to prompt us to duty! calling us from field to garden, as each demands attention. Look no longer, then, upon the weeds as pests and plagues, but by careful industry exclude them from the crops which you prefer to them.

**Watering.**—Water copiously and rarely; a constant drizzling cakes the ground, and is of little service to the roots.

**The Garden.**—Pass through the garden once a day, at least; give it an hour in the morning and

another in the evening, if possible; no part of the farm will pay you better than the garden crops.—Coop some of the hens near and allow the chickens to go at will over the garden; and they will be able to obtain what meat they require with their vegetable diet.

Sow melons and cucumbers towards the last of the month for pickling.

**Grass.**—In rich, moist spots, grass will grow rank, and sometimes lodge before the end of June. This should be cut early, and another crop may be taken from the same ground.

**Cattle.**—The stock still needs the master's eye. A little extra attention keeps the animals healthy and thrifty, and that is the only possible condition in which a profit can be derived from them.

**Many Things.**—The merchant watches the daily fluctuation of prices in his business, and calculates the loss and gain on them with eagle eye. So should the farmer watch every minute innovation, whether by insect or weed, upon his crops, and carefully attend to each at the particular season when they demand it. Promptness, as well as neatness and order, should prevail in every department of the farm.—*New England Farmer.*

### BUTTER MAKING.

The manufacture of this article is one of the most important, and we believe with proper care may be made the most profitable occupation that the farmers of Nova Scotia can turn their attention to. For want of due regard to cleanliness and care in the manufacture and salting of the article for the market, the quality and price of Nova Scotia butter had greatly deteriorated in past years.—We have frequently alluded to the necessity for greater attention being paid to these requisites, and we are happy to learn that during the past year some improvement has taken place, and that Nova Scotia butter is again acquiring a good name. Messrs. Clift, Wood & Co., of St. John's, N. F., in a circular to the trade, dated 17th April, says, "the improvement in the manufacture of this article in Nova Scotia and Cape Breton last season has re-established its character, which we hope will in future be sustained." We learn from the price current attached to the same circular, that butter from Nova Scotia commands a higher price in the market than that from either Canada or the United States.

While we note this gratifying circumstance, it at the same time must be acknowledged that there is yet great room for improvement, at least as far as the County of Pictou is concerned; and we think that in this remark any person will agree with us who will take the trouble to look into some of the shops and see the rainbow tints that grace the salted butter now being retailed in consequence of the scarcity of the new made article.

For the butter spoiled in packing the merchants alone are to blame, and for that spoiled in making they have the remedy in their own hands, by fixing a discriminating price, according to quality.—A great fault of some of the butter makers of this county is the mixing of a large quantity of salt in the article they bring to market. They perhaps find it profitable to buy salt at 1s. 6d. per bushel and sell it at 8d. per lb., but they should remember that the small quantity which they prepare in that way destroys the name and value of all the good butter exported from the county, and it would ultimately prove to their own advantage if they would give up the salt trade, and endeavor to produce an article that would raise the name of Pictou butter, and always command a remunerating price.

It is highly desirable that an Inspector of butter should be appointed for the town of Pictou, whose duty it would be to inspect all butter offered for

sale or exported, marking the same according to quality. The price of the article would then be regulated solely by the inspector's brand. Such a system would speedily rid the market of bad butter; and we are convinced that if the inspector's salary were exacted from the butter makers themselves they would in the end find it be money well invested.—*Eastern Chronicle.*

### THE THRIFLESS FARMER.

He has more stock than he has the means to keep well.

One half of the little he raises is destroyed by his own neighbors' cattle.

He plants a few fruit trees, and his cattle forthwith destroys them. He has no luck in raising fruit.

He has no shed for his firewood, consequently his wife is out of humor, and his meals out of season.

Manure lies in heaps in his stable, his horses are rough and uncurried, and his harness trod under their feet.

He grazes his meadows in the fall and spring by which they are gradually exhausted, and finally ruined.

His fences are old and poor—just such as to let his neighbor's cattle break into his fields, and teach his own to be unruly.

He forgets that in undertaking to save five dollars in seed, he cheats both himself and his land, and loses twenty dollars in hay and pasture.

He neglects to keep manure from around the sills of his barn—if he has one—by which they are prematurely rotted, and his barn destroyed.

Somebody's hogs break in and destroy his garden, because he had not stopped a hole in the fence that he had been intending to stop for a week.

He is a great borrower of his thrifty neighbors' article; and when it is sent for, it can't be found.

He tills, or skims over the surface of his land, until it is exhausted, but never thinks it worth while to manure or clover it. For the first, he has no time, for the last, he "is not able."

The thrifless farmer provides no shelter for his cattle during the inclemency of the winter; but permits them to stand shivering by the side of a fence, or to lie in the snow, as best suits them.

His bars and gates are broken, his buildings unpainted, and the boards and shingles falling off; he has no time to replace them. The glass is out of the windows, and the holes stopped with rags and old hats.

His plough, drag, and other implements, lie all winter in the field where last used; and just as he is getting in a hurry the next season, his plough breaks because it was not housed and properly cared for.

He buys more land when he ought to buy more manure; or he puts out his money in some joint stock company, to convert sunshine into moonshine; or he buys shares in some gold or lead mine, forgetting that his richest mine is the barnyard, and whatever temptations stocks or shares may offer, the best investment for a farmer is live stock and plough-shares.

**CURE FOR TOOTHACHE.**—Mr. James Baston, of Airdrie, says:—"Gum Copal when dissolved in Chloroform, forms an excellent compound for stuffing the holes of decayed teeth. I have used it frequently, and the benefits my patients have derived from it have been truly astonishing. The application is simple and easy. I clean out the hole, and moisten a little piece of cotton with the solution; I introduce this into the decayed part, and in every instance the relief has been almost instantaneous. The chloroform removes the pain, and the gum copal resists the action of the saliva; and as the application is so agreeable, those who may labor under this dreadful malady would do well to make a trial of it."

## Miscellaneous Extracts.

### THE GREAT COMING COMET.

The following interesting details respecting the comet which is expected to make its appearance about the year 1856, are given by M. Rabinet, an eminent French astronomer, and member of the Academy of Sciences, in an article recently published in the *N. Y. Courier des Etats Unis*:—

"This comet is one of the grandest of which historians make mention. Its period of revolution is about three hundred years. It was seen in the years 104, 392, 683, 975, 1264, and the last time in 1556. Astronomers agreed in predicting its return in 1848, but it failed to appear—*manque au rendez-vous*, according to the expression of M. Rabinet—and continues to shine still, unseen by us. Already the observatories begin to be alarmed for the fate of their beautiful wandering star. Sir John Herschel himself had put a crape upon his telescope, when a learned calculator of Middlebourg, M. Bromme, re-assured the astronomical world of the continued existence of the venerable and magnificent comet.

"Disquieted, as all other astronomers were, by the non-arrival of the comet at the expected time, M. Bromme, aided by the preparatory labors of Mr. Hind, with a patience truly Duch, has revised all the calculations and estimated all the actions of all planets upon the comet for the three hundred years of revolution. The result of this patient labor gives the arrival of the comet in August, 1858, with an uncertainty of two years, more or less, so that, from 1856 to 1860, we may expect the great comet which was the cause of the abdication of the Emperor Charles V. in 1556.

"It is known that, partaking of the general superstition, which interpreted the appearance of a comet as the forerunner of some fatal event, Charles V. believed that this comet addressed its menaces particularly to him, as holding the first rank among sovereigns. The great and once wise but now wearied and shattered monarch had been for some time the victim of cruel reverses. There were threatening indications in the political; if not in the physical horizon, of a still greater tempest to come. He was left to cry in despair, "Fortune abandons old men." The appearance of the blazing star seemed to him an admonition from heaven that he must cease to be sovereign, if he would avoid fatality from which one without authority might be spared. It is known that the emperor survived his abdication but a little more than two years.

"Another comet, which passed near us in 1836, and which has appeared twenty-five times since the year 13 before the Christian era, has been associated by the superstitions with many important events which have occurred near the period of the visitation.

"In 1066, William the Conqueror landed in England, at the head of a numerous army, about the time that the comet appeared, which now bears the name of Halley's comet. The circumstance was regarded by the English as a prognostic of the victory of the Normans. It infused universal terror into the minds of the people, and contributed not a little towards the submission of the country after the battle of Hastings, as it had served to discourage the soldiers of Harold before the combat. The comet is represented upon the famous tapestry of Bayeux, executed by Queen Matilda, the wife of the Conqueror.

"This celebrated tapestry is still preserved in the ancient Episcopal palace at Bayeux. It represents the principal incidents, including the appearance of the comet, in the history of the conquest of England, by William, Duke of Normandy. It is supposed to have been executed by Matilda, daughter