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AGRICULTURE.

HORSE-SHOEING.

Many horses are injured by carelessness or improper management in shoeing. To learn how to fit a shoe accurately to the horse's foot, so that it shall properly protect the foot, and at the same time to avoid the liability to injure it, is no mean acquisition. The smith, to conduct his business properly, should have an accurate knowledge of the anatomy, physiology and pathology of the horse's foot, and then he will perform the operation of shoeing not merely as though he was nailing a piece of iron to a block of wood, but with all the care and nicety which the living structure requires. We have some skilful smiths, who have knowledge and judgment enough so that our horses may be safely committed to them whenever they require shoeing; but more such men are needed. Some hints on this subject, from those who have the knowledge and experience, would doubtless be acceptable and useful to our readers.

Henry Griswold, of Farmington, Conn., who for twenty years has followed the business of shoeing and farriery, makes the following remarks on this subject, which we copy from the Boston Cultivator:

"The feet of horses differ so much, that it requires great judgment, and a thorough knowledge of their anatomical structure, to shoe each horse in a manner best calculated to answer the intentions of nature. Smiths generally pare the heel too much, or rather, do not pare the toe enough; the reason is, that it is so much harder to cut. When the horse stands upon the foot, the heel is so much lower than it should be, that the cords of the leg are strained; so, after a night's rest, the legs are stiff and sore, and the horse moves very awkwardly. This sometimes is attributed to founder, when in reality it is caused by nothing but bad shoeing. Frequently the toe is burnt off. This is also injurious, for so far as the heat penetrates, the life of the hoof, and the only matter which gives toughness are destroyed, and the hoof becomes brittle and liable to crack. Care should be taken to see that the points of the nails are free from defects, for sometimes, after the nail has entered the hoof, it splits and a part penetrates the quick, causing lameness."—*Maine Farmer.*

Rust or Mildew in Wheat.

A correspondent of the Boston Cultivator, D. L. Harvey, of Epping, N. H., furnishes the following remarks relative to the rust or mildew in wheat. His theory appears to be supported by facts, and corresponds very nearly with that advanced by a correspondent in the second volume of the Maine Farmer.

"The rust or mildew on wheat is caused by a slight drought and a sudden rain, and the sun coming out hot immediately after, without wind when the wheat berry is two-thirds run, when it gives the wheat such an impetus, that it splits the stalk of the grain, which causes the sap to ooze out, and finally stops the growth of the berry. After this takes place, any person will notice that the spots on the stalk are all lengthwise of the stalk, and by taking a sharp knife, he will find that the stalk is split open. Now the grain must be about two-thirds full to have this take place, and at no other stage of its growth.

We believe that manuring with new, unrotted manure will increase the evil, because it begins to work when the grain needs it the least, in the hot, sultry weather of July and August. It is sure for a good crop of wheat, to well dress the land the year previous, or dress that spring with old, well-rotted manure, and sow as soon as the

land will admit, if possible, to avoid all the dog day weather we can. I have known forward pieces to yield a first rate crop, and others on an adjoining farm, which were sown later, to be worthless, on the same kind of soil, with equally good treatment.

The red bearded Black Sea wheat is more hardy against the rust or straw split than most other varieties, and ripens some days earlier.—I obtained more bushels of wheat on the same kind of land last year, than I did of barley from the same amount of seed, though quite a light crop. This, Mr. Editor, is my humble opinion after fifteen years close observation on the subject. A slight rain is highly dangerous to a crop of wheat after it begins to turn for ripening."—*lb.*

PREPARATION OF MANURES.—The most important business for this month is the accumulation and preparation of manures for autumn use. A few minutes may be profitably spent every morning and evening, in throwing the results of the stables, yards, &c., under the manure sheds, and thus prevent the loss, in part, which would arise from evaporation when exposed to the sun. Use at least half a bushel of dirty or cheap salt for each cord of manure, to prevent fire-fanging, and the production of grubs, slugs &c.; an occasional coating of charcoal dust to save the ammonia, will be advantageous; if this cannot be had, dust your manure heaps with the same material, to prevent bad odors. Cartmuck, pond-mud, head-lands, wood-scrapings, &c. &c. &c., to your manure heaps; throw your weeds either in your hog-pen or on your manure heaps; if the latter, salt them, to prevent the seed regenerating; throw the contents of your hog-pen each week upon the manure heap, as the decomposition will be equally rapid there, and the loss by evaporation much less. When the hog-pen is empty, dust it with plaster or charcoal dust, and occasionally a little lime. Both the charcoal and lime are necessary to the health of the hogs, as they eat small quantities of each; and these materials, in addition to this immediate use, will be a saving, by retaining those gasses which would otherwise escape, the quantities liberated by the lime is saved by the charcoal. Should your manure heaps prove dry, wet them with the spent lay of the soap boiler; if this cannot be had, use water. Should your manure heaps fire-fang, it will prove that you have not used as much swamp-muck, headlands, or other apparently inert materials as might profitably have been added to the mass. Carry all your house washes to the manure sheds, and if you have time towards the latter end of the month, give them a careful turning over. The above should not interfere with the manufacture of the other kinds of manure.—*Working Farmer.*

HILLING CORN.—In cultivating Indian corn, I am confident that "hilling" is a disadvantage to the crop. Of this I became fully convinced several years ago on contrasting its results with those of the opposing system, in a field belonging to a friend. Since then I have instituted a variety of experiments, and have found that the least surface is most eligible, and that in all modifications of soil and temperature, corn which is not "hilled up" is the most vigorous, less injuriously affected by drought, and produces more and sounder corn.—*German town Telegraph.*

It is stated that carrots are worth as much, per bushel, as oats, for horses, with dry food—feeding alternately, one day with carrots and one day with oats.

MISCELLANEOUS EXTRACTS.

THE EXODUS AND THE ROMAN CATHOLIC CLERGY.—The letter of the Rev. Mr. Mullen, with its candid admissions of the gradual extinction of the Roman Catholic faith, as soon as its votaries set foot on American soil, continues to create a perfect furor among the Irish clergy of both creeds. The Protestant party have had the letter reprinted and circulated throughout several districts, as strong presumptive evidence of the decline of Popery, and of the progress of the principles of the reformation. The Romish clergy, from the "lord primate" on his throne down to the humblest curate, appear to be perfectly astounded by the revelations of the American missionary, and the whole machinery of mother church has been set in motion with the view of checking a system which has led to such disastrous results as those vouched for on the competent authority of one high in the confidence of Archbishop Cullen himself. To stay the flight across the Atlantic is the first great object of the counter movement just now at work. As well might it be attempted to stop the tide with a pitchfork; but the trial is, nevertheless, being made, with what success time alone can tell. For the last month the subject of emigration has been the theme of altar eloquence throughout the length and breadth of the kingdom, and arguments of all kinds have been used to dissuade the people from abandoning the "old country" and the religion of their forefathers. The text was taken up on Sunday last by the Right Rev. Dr. Haly, the respected titular of Leighlin and Ferns, a prelate who deservedly possesses the good will and confidence of all creeds and classes, but who, upon this occasion, has, I learn, failed to convince the remnant of his flock of the dangers they must be prepared to encounter, should they persist in the resolution formed by many of them to follow their relatives to their new homes in the western world. The emigration from the district over which Dr. Haly presides has been enormous, and the gross amount of the sums of money transmitted by the emigrants, either for the immediate relief or for the purpose of defraying the expenses out of their friends in Ireland, almost exceeds the limits of belief.—*Correspondent of the London Times.*

LOSSES BY RELIGION.—Near London there dwelt an old couple. In early life they had been poor; but the husband became a Christian, and God blessed their industry, and they were living in a comfortable retirement, when one day a stranger called on them to ask their subscription to a charity. The old lady had less religion than her husband, and still bankered after some of the Sabbath earnings and easy shillings which Thomas had forfeited from a regard to the law of God. So when the visitor asked their contributions she interposed, and said, "Why, sir, we have lost a deal by religion since we began, my husband knows that very well. Have we not, Thomas?"

After a solemn pause, Thomas answered, "Yes, Mary, we have. Before I got religion, Mary, I had an old slouched hat, a tattered coat, and mended shoes and stockings, but I have lost them all long ago. And, Mary, you know that poor as I was, I had a habit of getting drunk and quarrelling with you; and that you know I have lost. And then I had a burdened conscience and a wicked heart, and ten thousand guilty fears; but all are lost, completely lost, and like a mill-stone cast into the deepest sea. And, Mary, you have been a loser too; though not so great a loser as myself. Before we got religion, Mary, you had a washing-tray, in

which you washed for hire; but since then, you have lost your washing-tray. And you had a gown and a bonnet much the worse for wear; but you have lost them long ago. And you had many an aching heart concerning me at times; but these you happily have lost. And I could even wish that you had lost as much as I have lost; for what we lose for religion will be an everlasting gain."

The inventory of losses by religion runs thus: a bad character; a guilty conscience; troublesome temper; sundry evil habits, and a set of wicked companions.

The inventory of blessings gained by religion, includes all that is worth having in time and eternity.—*Hamilton, condensed by Hebe.*

THE IMMENSITY OF THE UNIVERSE.—As a proof of what an immense book the heavens is, and also of the indefatigability of the student man in turning over its leaves, Dr. Nichol, in his work describing the magnitude of Lord Rosse's telescope, says that Lord Rosse has looked into space a distance so tremendous, so inconceivable, that light, which travels at the rate of 200,000 miles in one second, would require a period of 250,000,000 of solar years, each year containing about 32,000,000 of seconds, to pass the intervening gulph between this earth and the remotest point to which this telescope has reached! How utterly unable is the mind to grasp even a fraction of this immense period; to conceive the passing events of a hundred thousands of years, or to say an impossibility, to say nothing of millions and hundreds of millions of years. The sun is ninety-five millions of miles distant from the earth, yet a ray of light will travel that immense distance in 480 seconds; long as the distance may seem to be passed in so short a time, what comparison can the mind frame between it and that greater distance, which Dr. Nichol and Rosse demonstrate, would require every second of that time to represent more than five hundred thousand years! And recollect the study of astronomy is not only useful to excite emotions of grandeur and sublimity at such discoveries; but it is the basis of navigation and of our note of time, and unites the strictness of mathematical reasoning and the most certain calculations.

AN AMERICAN IN ROME.—Mr. Thurlow Weed, editor of the Albany Evening Journal, gives the following account of an incident in Rome, which we mentioned in our last:

"There was an unpleasant occurrence in front of St. Peter's yesterday. When the Pope was about to pronounce the benediction, a French officer ordered Mr. Jones, of New York, to take off his hat. Mr. Jones refused, and the officer knocked it off, for which he struck the officer with his cane. The officer struck back with his sword, cutting Mr. J. slightly in the hand, who returned another blow with his cane. By this time he was taken in hand by the troops and carried to prison. Information was taken to Mr. Cass, our Minister, who immediately went to the authorities, and after two or three hours delay, procured his release.—*Globe.*

The Bank of England covers five acres of ground, and employs nine hundred clerks; should a clerk be too old for service, he is discharged on half pay for life. There are no windows on the street; light is admitted through open courts; no mob could take the Bank, therefore, without cannon to batter the immense walls. The clock in the centre of the Bank has fifty dials attached to it. Large cisterns are sunk in the courts, and engines in perfect order are always in readiness in case of fire. The Bank was incorporated in 1664. Capital £18,000,000, or \$19,000,000.