

# THE GLEANER

AND NORTHUMBERLAND, KENT, GLOUCESTER, AND RESTIGOUCHE  
COMMERCIAL AND AGRICULTURAL JOURNAL.

New Series, Vol. I: *Nec araneorum sane textus ideo melior, quia ex se fila gignunt, nec noster vilior quia ex alienis libamus ut apes.* No. 34.

Miramichi, Saturday Evening, May 13, 1843.

## Agricultural Journal.

**Substitute for Glazed Frames in Hot-beds.**—In the Rheinlandische Gartenzeitung is described a substitute for the glazed frames of hot beds and green houses, which deserves the attention of florists. Instead of glass, the frames are covered with a fine white cloth of cotton. In order to render this more transparent, and enable it to resist moisture, it is covered with a preparation the ingredients of which four ounces of pulverised dry white cheese, two ounces of white slack lime, and four ounces of boiled linseed oil. These three ingredients having been mixed with each other, four ounces of the white of eggs, and as much of the yolk added, and the mixture is then made liquid by heating. The oil combines easily the other ingredients, and the varnish remains pliable and quite transparent. The expense of a forcing bed arranged in this manner is inconsiderable, and it yields at the same time many other advantages. Such a bed needs not the anxious attention required by the ordinary ones covered with glazed frames. During the strongest rays of the mid-day sun they do not require any particular covering or shade; the atmosphere therein preserves a nearly equable temperature almost the whole day, according to circumstance. If such a bed is provided with a soil of horse dung, and a proper thickness of some fertile, finely sifted heath mould is spread thereon, layers of all sorts of flowers, early vegetables and other plants may be reared from seeds in it.

### Annals of Chemistry

**Halifax Colonial Farmer.**  
**Peas.**—Do not sow peas upon the ground where there were raised last year. This precaution may sometimes be neglected with impunity in small gardens in town, but in the country if they are raised for two years in succession on the same ground, the roots will certainly be attacked by the pea-worm, and yellow leaves will appear as soon as the blossoms. Dry grass land that has been broken up, and produced one crop of potatoes will always appear a good crop of peas.

**Cabbage and Swedish Turnips.**—Remember that no manure which contains the scraping of a cellar where turnips or cabbage have been kept or an rubbish from a yard where the paring of turnips, or cabbage stumps have been thrown, should ever be used for these plants, as it will produce the disease called club foot, Anbury, or fingers and toes. There are some grounds where cabbage and turnips have been often raised, that are so full of bugs or their eggs, that the plants will clubbed even when stable manure is used. It is best therefore to use the ground where such plants have not been previously raised, but in gardens where there is no choice of ground, either mix a portion of salt seaweed with the manure, or else sprinkle a little pickle of fish or meat over the land after sowing the seed. Salt in any

form destroys many eggs of insects. To have good heads of large kinds of cabbage they should not be planted nearer to each other than thirty inches; on very rich land the distance may be three feet. Two or three plants may be set together, and when they have grown so much as to be out of danger from grubs, pull out the weakest and leave but one in a place.

**Time of Applying Manures.**—Manure produced the greatest effect spread on grass land in the spring as soon as the field appeared green.

When spread on either grass or plough land in the fall there was a loss of nearly one third the value of the manure.

When spread on plough land in the fall, and ploughed in, there was more than three fourths.

When spread on the grass land directly after the hay was taken off in a very dry season, there was a loss of one half.

When spread on grass land at the same time, in a wet season, there was but little loss.

These experiments were made on a dry gravelly soil.

When the wash of the kitchen is thrown upon rotten chips or sawdust it makes an excellent manure for any purpose, but should not be used for potatoes, as it always contains a great number of hair like worm, which by eating the skin from potatoes makes them what is called scabby. A mixture of decayed tanners bark has had the same bad effect upon potatoes.

### From the Maine Cultivator.

#### LAMBS.

Many farmers are averse to having their lambs come early in consequence of a belief that the sheep are thereby liable to be rendered poor. This is a mistake. It is not the early lambing of the animals that renders them weak and debilitated, but on the contrary, the lack of suitable attention and want of food. Last season we had a flock of fifteen sheep, which were kept by themselves, and each one of which had reared a lamb, although some of them had young as early as the last of December, and the remainder of the flock before the middle of the subsequent month. It may be worthy of remark that these sheep, both before and after lambing, were supplied with no other hay than *sorrel*—a description not very highly esteemed, but which we are confident, both from our own experience, and the recommendations it has received from those whose experience in feeding it out, entitles their opinions to regard, has been valued far below its real worth. One important reason why sheep so frequently disappoint their owner's expectations, when lambing early, is the closeness with which they are sometimes confined, and the large numbers that are crowded in a single fold. These evils, with the total destitution of water, carry off thousands, annually, young and old.

No animal is more essentially benefited by a plentiful supply of water than the sheep. When near their

yards, they resort to it as frequently, and, to appearance, partake of it as greedily as the cow or ox. There are but few animals that will do better upon the expense of extra care and keeping during winter, than the sheep. Roots of all kinds, particularly turnips, are highly beneficial, not only by obviating the bad consequence frequently resulting from confinement, during a long period, to dry and unsucculent keep, but also by promoting a bountiful supply of milk while nursing their lambs.

It will be also cheaper to feed partially on roots, than to confine them exclusively to hay, or hay and grain, as is now the practice with some farmers, who have not as yet practically familiarized themselves with the advantages resulting from a diet composed of these articles, in connexion with roots.

#### From the Maine Farmer.

**Make better Butter.**—Perhaps there is no article of domestic manufacture which varies so much in quality as butter. The cause of this variation in quality, is, nine times out of ten, owing either to the want of skill or to carelessness in the manufacturer. The materials, taking the average of dairies, do not differ essentially, supposing the cows to be fed alike. Taking this for granted, why is there such poor, inferior butter in the market? We were told the other day by a gentleman, who is conversant with the market in Boston, that nearly all of the butter in Maine is of an inferior kind—that it has a surplus of butter milk and a surplus of salt. Now it really seems to us that nothing is more easy than to work out the one and withhold the other. Nothing is wanting but a little more care and labour expended upon it. We acknowledge that there is perhaps another cause of there being so much poor butter in the market; and that is this,—the traders throughout the country who take in butter during the warm season, in payment for their several articles which they sell to their customers, do not discriminate sufficiently in their price between good, bad and indifferent, and tumbled together into the same tub. It is not so much wonder then that the dairy maid pays so little attention to the manufacture, and that the whole collection of the trader should give such an assemblage of the varieties as it regards color, taste, and consistency.

Fifty per cent difference in price on a pound of butter should well repay a little extra labor in the manufacture, and surely it is no difficult matter to rightly season it with salt, so that the taste shall be agreeable rather than disgusting. We hope the farmers' wives and daughters will exert themselves to have a *mighty reform* in this particular.

#### From the Br. Am. Cultivator.

**Leached Ashes.**—We have long since been thoroughly acquainted with the extraordinary effect of leached ashes, and are of the opinion that their fertilizing qualities chiefly consisted in imparting to the soil a capacity to appropriate and disseminate

more abundantly the fertilizing constituents of the atmosphere.

In the spring of 1839, we applied three waggon loads of leached ashes to five roods of old meadow land, that had been mowed, and occasionally pastured for 35 years. The crop which was cut from this meadow the year previous to the top dressing of ashes, did not yield more than one ton of hay, and that of an inferior quality; whereas the one which succeeded the dressing, yielded upwards of two and a half tons of the best quality of hay, and the following crop produced nearly a like quantity. The influence of the single dressing was visible the last two years. We confidently state that the additional quantity of hay realized from the 3 loads of leached ashes, equal to 80 bushels, was not less than three tons. The most extraordinary effect produced from this experiment, was the action of the ashes on the common white clover, indigenous to the country which grew to the height of twelve inches and apparently as thick as it could stand on the ground.

We made another experiment with leached ashes which may be worthy of notice, on a crop of ruta baga, which proved not only of great importance to the plants, but was a great preventative of injury from the little tormenting fly, which has been the great bane to successive turnip culture in Canada.

By admitting proper means to renovate soils which have been exhausted by unskilful cultivation. The two most powerful agents that are abundantly accessible to Canada, are gypsum and ashes.

Leached ashes will be found particularly efficacious to oats, peas, buck wheat, turnips, potatoes, and the broad leaved grasses, and in no case will be found injurious to other crops.

#### EXTRACTS.

**Recipe for the Hoven in Cattle.**—The Hadleigh Farmers' Club recommends the following recipe for blown or hoven cattle: 1 lb. clauburt salts, 3-4 lb of treacle, and 1 oz of ginger mixed with one pint and a half of warm water. Powerful stimulants, such as ammonia, are also recommended.

**Sheep Stock.**—After discussing the management of the sheep at the Framingham Farmers' Club, it was resolved that they should have access to either rock or common salt—that nothing is preferable to common hurdles for folding them in fields—that pasturing old clover leys with them, destroys many of the slugs and wire worms, and that their feeding the young wheat in the spring is beneficial.

In the 'Gardener's Magazine' for February, we find that charcoal as a manure, is coming into pretty general use. It proves very beneficial wherever applied.

The brine in which cucumbers is preserved, is said to be fatally poisonous to cattle and hogs. One of our citizens a few weeks back lost a cow from her having eaten a great quantity of pickles had been thrown out in an exposed situation.