

# THE GLEANER.

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

New Series, Vol. II.

*Nec araneorum sane textus ideo melior, quia ex se fila gignunt, nec noster vilior quia ex alienis libamus ut apes.*

No. 18.

Miramichi, Wednesday Morning, February 7, 1844.

## Administration Notices.

**ADMINISTRATION NOTICE**—All persons having claims against the Estate of the late **WILLIAM WHITE**, of Bathurst, in the County of Gloucester, Innkeeper, deceased, are hereby requested to render their accounts, duly attested, within four months from this date, and all those indebted to the said estate are called upon to make payment within the same period to the Subscribers.

**THOMAS WHITE**, } Administrators  
**WILLIAM NAPIER**, } on the said Es-  
**THOS M. DEBLOIS**, } tate with the  
Will annexed.

Bathurst, Nov. 23, 1843.

**NOTICE**—All persons having any just demands against the Estate of **ANGUS FRASER**, late of Alnwick, in the county of Northumberland, Farmer, are requested to render the same, duly attested, to **Edward Williston**, Esquire, Solicitor on said Estate, within three months from the date hereof, and all persons indebted to the said Estate, will make immediate payment to him or to the subscriber.

**JOHN T. WILLISTON**, Administrator.  
Chatham, December 12, 1843.

All persons having any just demands against the Estate of **JAMES HOSFORD**, late of North Esk, in the County of Northumberland, Farmer, are requested to render the same, duly attested to, within three months from the date hereof, and all persons indebted to the said Estate, will make immediate payment.

**EDWARD WILLISTON**,  
Administrator.  
Newcastle, December 6, 1843.

**NOTICE**—All persons having any demands against the Estate of **DAVID GIFFORD**, late of Richbucto, in the county of Kent, Trader, deceased, are requested to render their accounts duly attested, in three months from the date hereof; and all persons indebted to the said Estate, are requested to make immediate payment.

**MARY GIFFORD**, Administratrix.  
Richbucto, November 20, 1843.

## Dry Goods, &c:

The Subscriber has received by recent arrivals, a consignment of a choice selection of **DRY GOODS**, which he will dispose of wholesale or retail, at the residence of his father, in Chatham, at very reduced prices, for Cash.

**WILLIAM TAYLOR**,  
Chatham, December 26, 1843.

NEW YEAR—1844—NEW SERIES

## THE BROTHER JONATHAN:

A Mammoth Family Journal of Literature and News

On Saturday, the sixth day of January, 1844, will be issued the first number of a NEW SERIES of this olden and most popular public favorite. It will be printed on entire new and beautiful type, and its form changed permanently to a folio of NINE LARGE COLUMNS to each page, and its price reduced to

TWO DOLLARS A YEAR.

in advance—thus rendering it, in all and every respect, the cheapest and best folio paper in the United States! This is not an unmeaning assertion, as every one of our numerous subscribers will be able to testify. Increased attractions and a new spirit will be infused into all its departments; gentlemen of first talents having been engaged as editors and contributors.

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**EDWARD STEPHENS**, Publisher,  
23 Ann street, New-York.

## Agricultural Journal.

From Chambers's Information for the People.

### MANURES.

By repeated cropping, the best soils become exhausted of their fertile properties, while naturally indifferent soils require the administration of certain qualities, before they will yield a due return to the labours of the husbandman. There are, no doubt, soils so naturally rich in some parts of the world, that, though used for twenty or more years in growing successive grain crops, they show no indications of impoverishment; yet even they must in time be exhausted, and therefore, in all circumstances, manures, or artificial fertilisers, require the consideration of the husbandman. In our own country (Great Britain) they are of the first importance.

Manures are of two classes, both of which have distinctive characters, and perform different offices in the the economy of vegetation. The first of these comprehends all animal and vegetable decomposing matter, and is principally employed in feeding the plant, augmenting its size, and sustaining the vital energy. The second operates more on the soil and decomposing matter than in directly contributing to the support of the vegetable. The first kind has been called animal and vegetable, and the second fossil, manures. Under this second class are ranked not only lime, marl, and gypsum, but sand, gravel, and clay, so that all the meliorations which are effected on soil by blending and compounding the original earths, are compressed within its limits.

The animal and vegetable manures, which are putrescent in their nature, are foremost in importance and dignity. They consist of certain elementary parts of animal and vegetable substances, elaborated by a natural chemical process in the course of the decomposition or decay of the bodies. The excrementitious matter or dung of all animals, is no other than the remains of the vegetable or animal food which has been received into the stomach, undergone there a partial dissolution, and been thrown out as unserviceable for the further nutrition of the system. From this universal decay of organised matter, and its conversion into fluids and gases, it would seem that animal and vegetable substances, and excrementitious matter, are resolvable into each other, and are only different parts of the same original principles. The essential elements of them all are hydrogen, carbon, and oxygen, either alone, or in some cases united with nitrogen. Conveyed by liquids or moist substances into the ground, these elements are sought for as nourishment by the roots of plants, and so form the constituent principles of a new vegetation. Inasmuch as flesh consists of a greater concentration of these original elements than vegetables, the manure produced by carnivorous animals (man included) is always more strong in proportion to its bulk than that discharged by animals who live only on herbage. Experience fully proves that all animal and vegetable manures

are but varieties of one kind of principles; their actual shape and appearance being of much less consequence than the degrees of strength in which these principles reside in them.

Whatever be the value of the elementary principles of manures, practically they are of no use as manure till they are disengaged by putrefaction. It may be further observed, that putrefaction is in every instance produced by the elementary principles being set at liberty either in a fluid or volatile state. If a quantity of stable dung be piled into a heap, and freely exposed to all varieties of weather, it soon heats and emits a stream of vapour, which is often visible as a cloud over it. These vapours, and also the odours sent forth, are gases escaping, and the heap is constantly diminishing in weight and volume; at the end of six months, if there have been alternate moisture and warmth, not above a fourth of the original essential material remains to be spread on the field; there may be in appearance nearly as much substance, but it is comparatively of little value—the real manure is gone, and what remains is little better than a mass of unputrefied rubbish.

It may be safely averred, that no principle connected with agriculture is so little understood or thought of as that which has been now mentioned. We therefore crave the most earnest attention to it by every reader of these pages. Generally speaking, the excrementitious matters thrown to the dung hill are treated with perfect indifference as to the effects of exposure and drainage away in the form of liquids. It cannot be too strongly stated that this is a gross abuse in farming. The putrescent stream contains the very essence of the manure, and should either be scrupulously confined within the limits of the dung-hill, or conveyed to fresh vegetable or earthy matter, that it may impart its nutritive qualities.

A knowledge of this important truth has led to the practice of making compost dung-heaps, in which the valuable liquids and gases of different kinds of manure are absorbed by earth, or some other substance, and the whole brought into the condition of an active manure for the fields. Hitherto, it has been customary to speak of dung-hills, but there ought to be no such objects. The collection of manure from the farm-yard and offices should form a dung-pit, not a dung-hill; and the manner of making and managing the contents of this pit on the best principles is well worthy of our consideration.

**Farm-yard Manure.**—The situation of the dung-pit should be near the stables and cow-houses, and placed so low that all streams of urine from them should flow at once into it, so that nothing be lost. It may be three or four feet deep, and of a size proportionate to the stock of cattle usually kept by the farmer. It is not necessary that it should be built round with a wall, or have a perpendicular descent, as it may slope gently inwards, and deepen gradually towards the centre. It should, if possible, be covered by a roof, to prevent the action of the sun. If the bottom be

found firm, impervious, and capable of containing the juices, no further trouble is requisite, and the work is complete; in many instances, however, it will be necessary first to puddle with clay, and then line the bottom with flag-stones. Into this pit, earth, with refuse straw, should be brought, and strewed over the bottom and sloping sides, to the thickness of from nine to twelve inches, and this will form an inferior layer to absorb all that portion of the liquid manure which naturally runs to the bottom. The pit is now prepared to receive all kinds of animal and vegetable manure, which, when brought, should be always laid evenly over the surface. In Scotland, such dung-pits are common, and in the course of accumulation, a young or wintering stock of cattle is allowed to go at large upon the whole; the animals being at the same time fed on a proper allowance of straw. Care is also taken to mix, in laying on, the dung brought from the cow-house, stable, and piggeries, so that the rich excrement of the well-fed animals may be incorporated with that of a poor description from others. It is likewise of the utmost importance, though too frequently neglected, to convey to the pit the entire liquid refuse of the farm-yard, provided the quantity be not so great as to make it advisable to have a separate pit for its reception.

It is customary to cart away the material of the dung-pit at convenient opportunities (usually during the frosts in winter), to a place in the fields, near where it is to be used, and there pile it up in a quadrangular heap of about four feet in height. Dung, carted out in this manner, is ready for the turnip husbandry in June, and the practice is otherwise convenient. It may, however, be stated, that for want of attention to principles already explained, such dung-heaps, by exposure for months to the weather, must lose some of their valuable properties. In every instance, the dung-heap in the fields should be placed in a hollow situation, with a substratum of earth, and should have a scattering of a few inches of earth over it, and around the sides, to keep in the volatile gases. When the dung-pit has been thus emptied, it may again be progressively filled as before; and when it is carted out in any of the spring months, it will be found necessary to turn it once, or oftener, for the purpose of accelerating the decomposition of the strawy part of the mass. It may be of use to know, however, that the dung required for fallows for wheat in autumn, may be less putrefied than that for turnip crops.

### Liquid Manure, Bone-Dust, &c.

—The urine of cattle is of great value as a manure, and this is so well known to the farmers of Belgium, that they use tanks for collecting the liquid from the cow-houses, and thence they pump it up, and pour it over the land at the proper season. When mixed with vegetable refuse, moss, or earth, it forms an excellent compost. It is deeply to be regretted that so little is known on this subject; and such is the carelessness of farmers, cottagers, that the urine from their cattle-stalls is in most cases suffered to waste.