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

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Agricultural Journal.

From the Albany Cultivator.
VERMONT FARMING.

We are indebted to Mr. J. P. Fairbanks for a copy of the *Caledonian*, containing the statement of Mr. Fuller, who obtained the second premium for the best managed farm, from the Caledonia county (Vt.) Agricultural Society. Mr. Fuller's chief attention is given to grazing and the dairy, his farm not being, as he says, well adapted to cultivation. He appears to be a good farmer, and his course of management is undoubtedly in many respects worthy of imitation by others in similar circumstances.

What land he tills, is broken up from the sward in autumn, and sowed the next spring with oats; the stubble plowed in soon after taking off the crop, the next spring manured and planted with potatoes. The third season it is sowed to wheat, and seeded down with ten to twelve pounds clover-seed, and four to six quarts herds grass, (Timothy?) to the acre. He states that within two or three years, he has found the furrows of green sward which laid one against the other at an angle of forty-five degrees, produce a much better crop of oats than when turned over flat. He does not particularly inform us in regard to the nature of his soil, but from the remark that it is better adapted to grazing than to cultivation, we suppose that it is rather moist and heavy. If this is the case, it would account in some degree for the advantage of the mode of laying the furrows which is spoken of.

Breeding Stock.—In regard to the question whether cattle can be best improved by foreign blood, or by attention in selecting from the native breed. Mr. Fuller gives a decided preference to the latter mode; and observes that were two or three farmers in each town in the county to turn their attention to the matter, the object would soon be accomplished; whereas by the other course, he thinks "half a century may elapse before any thing like a general improvement is effected." The grounds for the opinion thus so positively expressed, Mr. Fuller does not give us; but we should think a very extensive experience and observation were necessary to justify so broad an assumption. He does not tell us what trials he has made, or has seen made, with particular breeds, or their cross, which it is important to know before we can judge of the correctness of his opinion. An experiment with a single animal, or with two or three animals, by no means proves the character of a whole race or breed much less does an experiment with one "imported breed," prove anything in regard to the character, or usefulness of other breeds. As to the lapse of "half a century" being required "before any thing like a general improvement is effected," we will just remark that we could point to hundreds of cases where a great and acknowledged improvement has been made in a single generation of stock; and what is the insuperable obstacle to such improvement becoming "general" in five years instead of fifty? Let all the best bulls in the country be so disposed of that they may be used to the best advantage, and we are much mistaken if a "general improvement" is not effected and admitted in the time we have mentioned.

In saying this, we would by no means discourage improvements by selections from the best of the common stock, especially where better animals can be had than are offered by the imported breeds. Mr. Fuller's course for example, has been attended with advantages, though we can perceive no evidence that he has effected greater improvement than could have been attained by proper crosses with some imported breeds. His principles, so far as any are given, for breeding dairy stock, are undoubtedly good. He says, "care should be taken that the mother of the bull should possess all the qualifications of a good cow." He gives us a mode of rearing calves, which appears to us to be economical; while at

the same time, the results show that his stock are not only well managed and cared for, but from the size they attain at an early age, and the butter obtained from the cows, they must also be of good blood. His calves are taught to drink when two days old, and for eight weeks are allowed seven quarts of milk per day. For two or three weeks afterward, they are allowed a less quantity, when they are weaned and turned into good pasture with salt always by them. When the potatoes are being gathered in the following fall, the calves are let into the lot, where they soon learn to eat this vegetable. The following winter they are each fed with a quart of potatoes per day till spring. By this method he says he has "never failed of having 2 year old steers that would girt from 6 to 6 1-2 feet the fall after they were two years old. Live weight from 20 to 23 cwt."

We cannot avoid calling particular attention to the dimensions and weight of these steers. The girth, though not extraordinary, shows good steers for that age; but the weight in proportion to the girth is wonderful! We know not what may be the peculiar shape or proportions of these cattle, but from twelve to fifteen hundred is as great a live weight as we ever head of in animals of the girth given. Again, what would be the dressed weight of such cattle? Ordinarily, the dead weight of cattle of the girth he mentions, would not exceed 675 to 875 lbs., hide and tallow included. But the usual dead weight from as great live weight as he mentions, "20 to 23 cwt.," is not less than 1350 to 1550 pounds. Mr. Campbell's prize ox, which was slaughtered in this city in Feb. last, weighed alive only 2546 pounds, yet he girthed, by our own measurement, nine feet, and weighed, as we stated in our last, 2102 lbs. in beef, hide, and tallow. Is there not some mistake in Mr. Fuller's calculation about the weight of his two year old steers?

Produce of butter per cow, &c.—Mr. Fuller states that he has never given his cows meal or roots, "worth naming," but for ten or fifteen years past, they have averaged 200 pounds of butter from each cow. Has had cows which in the month of June would give 52 pounds of milk per day for one week, but considers 30 pounds a good yield. He has made from one cow, in the month of July sixteen and a half pounds of butter per week—the cow being fed only on grass, and allowed salt. He milks his cows early in the morning, and between five and six o'clock in the afternoon, they are milked again. In summer, he never yields his cows. Much of his pasture has never been plowed, and he doubts whether plowing would improve it.

From the New York Central Farmer.
TAKE CARE,

Should be the watchword of every farmer. There is no time to dispense with it, from the first day of January to the last day of December. And yet some would judge, from appearances about the premises of some farmers, that they hardly knew that those two words belong to the English language. To take care of anything, whether it be buildings, fences, crops or animals, seems never to have entered their mind as a thing of any importance. And even among those who would probably like to be called pretty good farmers, there is too often a manifest disinclination to take care. But although they are two small words and quickly told, the good or ill success of every farmer, depends in a great measure upon the observance or neglect of them. No great number of acres, or neglect of any amount of hard labor, will enable any man to dispense with them. If you would even raise a flock of chickens, you must take care of them. But little time is required to raise a hundred, provided you have the necessary conveniences for taking care of them.

If you wish to raise a litter of fine, thrifty pigs, take care of them. While they run with their mother, she must have enough to eat, of something; when you take them out, they must be fed not once or twice a day only, but five times at least—not twice as much as they can

eat at a time, but just as much as they can eat, and no more.

If it is your intention to raise two or three, or half a dozen calves, you may as well have good ones as bad ones—only take care of them. In the first place, breed from the best stock you have, or can produce, and then feed regularly with sufficient quantity of something, not so much matter what; they will readily learn to eat almost any thing—sour milk, or whey, with a trifle of meal, answers a good purpose, only let it be regular as to time and quantity. "This tampering and stuffing and overfeeding," as Mr. Bement says, is not the thing—it is not necessary. Good Stock can be raised without it, even from our native soil. But a little care, especially the first summer and first winter, they must have.

If you wish to have your fodder hold out well, take care of it. Have every animal in the stable if possible, not only nights, but cold stormy and windy days—feed little at a time and often, not only night and morning, but through the day.

If you wish to increase your quantity of manure take care of it. Keep your cattle close in the yard, and put up eave-troughs to carry off the water, so that there may be as little wash as possible. If there is a drain at one side of you, where all the moisture runs off, try and prevent it. A speaker in a late agricultural address says, "you may as well have a hole in your pocket, as a drain from your barn-yard." If you would raise good crops, take care of them. They must be fed as well as your cattle; or they will not grow. Plough thoroughly, to cut and cover won't do, neither will you have a great crop of grain, and a very great crop of weeds at the same time. Have an eye to your fences; if a board gets loose, or a rail is ready to tumble off, try to find it out before your cattle do.

If you have a family of children growing up, to take your place in this busy scene of things, when your race is run—you would probably be glad to have them become wiser and better men and women, than their father and mother were before them—then take care of them. Feed and clothe their bodies decently, but don't forget to feed their minds. Give them all the opportunities of a good and substantial education within your power. And whether they be male or female, and whether you expect to leave them rich or poor, learn them to take care.

From the British American Cultivator.
CARROTS.

The soil which is the best adapted to carrots, is a loose sandy loam. No root crop for field culture pays better than the largest and best varieties of carrots; and it appears strange that so little attention should have been paid to the cultivation of this root as winter food for horses and cows. The ground should be prepared for carrots in a similar manner as has been recommended for turnips, with this difference, that it cannot be ploughed too deep. The most successful carrot growers in Europe, plough to the depth of twenty-two inches. The seed should be sown or dibbed in drills, at the rate of five pounds per acre, by the tenth of this month, and earlier if possible. The seed of the carrot is so extremely light, and clings so closely together, that it is with difficulty that it is sown. To obviate this, they should be mixed with sand, and as they are remarkably slow to vegetate, it is advisable to pour a quantity of the drainings of the barnyard upon the sand and seed, which should be allowed to remain in a damp state for three or four days, and then the seed may be more equally distributed among the land and they would germinate as quickly by the aid of this preparation as any other seed. As soon as the young plants can be distinctly seen in the rows, they should be thinned out to the distance of about six inches, and the land between the rows should be well cleaned with a horse-hoe or cultivator to clear it of weeds. It is needless to give a further description of this crop, as but few Canadian farmers are disposed to give that minute attention which is required in the management

of field carrots; but it should be borne in mind, that by careful cultivation, no crop pays better, as nine hundred bushels per acre have been repeatedly grown upon land that would not have half that quantity of turnips; and indeed no crop, with the exception of parsnips, will yield so large a return from a given quantity of ground.

From the same.
CLOVER.

Will grow upon almost any quality of soil, but on marly land it appears to be most at home. It may be sown with spring wheat, barley, flax, and buckwheat or even oats, or winter wheat, provided that the ground occupied with the other crops is not adapted for seeding down; barley, flax, and spring wheat, are the most suitable crops for sowing down with grass seed. The usual quantity of seed sown upon an acre is six pounds of clover mixed with four pounds of timothy, but in most cases it could pay to increase this amount.—In England, from twelve to sixteen pounds of clover is not found too much, but this of course would be too great a quantity for the new lands of this country. Some soils require double the amount of seed that is required by others, and the best method to ascertain the exact quantity that would secure the greatest return of hay, would be to make a few experiments, which will answer the same end, if tried upon a small, as upon a large scale. Clover seed should always follow the last harrowing, and be rolled in immediately; and it would greatly benefit the young plants to have sown upon the crops about one bushel of gypsum per acre.

From the same.
Brief Directions for the Culture and Management of fruit Trees, &c.—Transplanting.

—Spring is the season when we enjoy the most pleasure in rural pursuits, and it therefore has been adopted as the most general for transplantation. The fall is nevertheless much to be preferred, as it allows the ground to become settled during winter, and the roots start afresh at the first opening of spring. In regard however to those Fruits obtained from warmer latitudes it is necessary for us to consult climate, and we have therefore come to the following conclusion. In localities south of New York, the fall is preferable for all trees—north of New York, the fall is preferable only for the Apple, Pear, Plum, Cherry, and other trees of northern latitudes, and the spring is to be preferred for the Peach, Apricot, and Nectarine.

In planting, make the holes large, say 1-2 feet square, and the same in depth; place the surface mould aside by itself, and cast away the poisonous bottom mould as useless; mix with the surface mould a portion of other rich mould, and about four shovels full of well rotted manure to each tree; then spread a few inches of this compost at the bottom—place the tree—fill in till the roots are covered, and tread it well; then fill up the rest without treading, as it must be left loose to receive the rains, after thus planted, water each tree well, and occasionally afterwards if the weather proves dry.

In regard to distance Apples should be planted in orchards at a distance of 30 feet; Pears and Cherries 20 to 25; Peaches, Nectarines, Apricots, and Plums, 10 to 12 feet.

The Gooseberry and Currant require a rich, friable soil, which should be well cultivated and manured. The Gooseberry will grow vigorously and produce very fine fruit if planted at the north side of a paling open fence and about two feet distance from it, or if planted beneath the partial shelter of a peach or plum orchard, as the full rays of the sun burn the fruit and arrests its growth. Both Gooseberries and Currants should be pruned in autumn and the weak shoots cut away, and this is the proper period for digging around them, and for enriching them where the soil requires it.

To prevent the Smut in Wheat.—Steep the grain in lime water, or a weak ley of wood ashes or pearl-ash.