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

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## Agricultural Journal.

### MANURES.

ROCKLAND, 11mo, 22nd, 1844.  
Esteemed Friend,—In compliance with request contained in thy letter of the 11th inst., I forward to thee a statement of the results of my experiments with different kinds of manure.

Ex. 1. On the 20th of the 4th mo. 1842, I sowed bone-dust, as it is called, on a plot of my wheat, at the rate of about six bushels to the acre. The cost of the bone-dust in Baltimore, was 40 cents a bushel, and I transported them to my farm. The wheat where the bone was put, was not improved by it; but a striking difference was soon perceived in the clover that had been sown among the wheat about three weeks before the bone. In the first crop following the past summer, there was an insufficient yield, where the bone had been above what was on the adjacent parts, and I paid for the bone, and all the trouble of tugging it on; and the second growth was an excellent crop of seed, while the parts where the bone was not put, were no seed worth gathering. The wheat is not got out yet, but several of my friends who are considered good judges of such matters, thought there would be a great increase in the yield of the first crop of the bone.

Ex. 2. At the same time that I sowed bone on my wheat, I sowed some at the rate of six bushels per acre on my clover, which had been put in ten days before, and sowed with clover. There was a great increase in the oats, both in size of the straws, and in the quantity and weight of the grain; and the clover the past season was several times more abundant where the bone was than where there was none. There is no question that the first cost of the bone was fully returned in the additional quantity of oats that resulted from its application.

Ex. 3. On the 2d of the 5th mo. 1843, I put a bushel of bone at the rate of six bushels per acre, on four rows of corn in the hill, by dropping the bone, then putting the bone on it, and sowing both up together. The difference in the appearance was manifest through the summer. When we gathered the corn we kept these four rows, and four rows on the side, and the four rows on the other, all separate. From four rows where the bone was put, we were 23-4 flour-barrel full of red ears, and a half barrel of short corn; from the four rows on each side, there was a scant flour-barrel full of red ears, and 3-4 of a flour-barrel of short corn. This gave me more than 2 flour barrels full of good corn for a bushel of bone, or 50 cents besides, there being more than double the quantity of ears where the bone was put.

Ex. 4. On the 3d of the 10th mo. 1843, I put in my wheat, on one part of which I put 15 bushels of bone per acre, on another part 30 bushels of finely powdered charcoal per acre, on another part of wheat straw and a part left without anything. The bone and charcoal were sown broadcast, and harrowed with the wheat. The charcoal did good whatever, either to the wheat, or the clover that was sown amongst the wheat where the charcoal was, and where nothing was put, alike not producing as much wheat as was sown, and they are now bare of clover. I had fifteen bushels of wheat per acre where the bone was put, and a luxuriant growth of clover, a large portion of which headed out, and filled well with seed. The wheat was dressed with manure. The wheat-straw did little good, but comparatively little.

Ex. 5. On the 26th of the 3d mo. 1844, I put in my oats and clover, sowing the ground, except a small part, ten bushels of bone to the acre. On half the ground the bone was harrowed in with the oats, on the top after harrowing. The crop of oats was greatly increased where the bone was put, it was best on that part where it had been harrowed in. The yield, however, was most as great as last year, I attribute partly to the dryer season

on this year. The clover is far better where the bone has been, than it was on the part left for experiment without anything.

Ex. 6. On the 24th of the 4th mo. 1844, I planted my corn, putting pou-drette in the hills at the rate of 1-2 barrels per acre, and covering it up with the corn. I left a few rows, for experiment without any, which were decidedly inferior to the others in the number and size of the ears, and the size of the stalks. Also that which had been dressed with pou-drette ripened considerably earlier—I should think at least ten days. The beneficial effects of the pou-drette were much the most remarkable on the part of the field where the land was poorest—indeed on a small part where the ground was very good, I was scarcely able, at pulling time, to see any difference.

Ex. 7. On the 19th of the 9th mo. 1844, I put in my wheat, four contiguous acres of which were manured as follows, viz.: One with 200 lbs. of guano, finely pulverized, and mixed the previous day with about an equal bulk of plaster of paris; another with 16 bushels of bone; a third with four barrels of pou-drette, and the fourth with a mixture of all these and a small part was left without anything. The manures were all harrowed in with the wheat. The rest of my wheat ground was dressed with bone. The cost of the manure on each of these four experiment acres was the same, viz., \$8 00 per acre. A marked difference is visible at this time in favour of that which was dressed with guano and plaster, and it all looks much better than that which was left without manure. The guano was obtained of Samuel R. George, of Baltimore, at \$3 00 per 100 lbs. I mixed it with plaster, to remove a part of its acid quality that might injure the young germ, and also to condense the volatile portions, and render the sowing of it less unpleasant. It costs me 30 cents per 100 lbs. to get the guano hauled from Baltimore, (28 miles.) The pou-drette costs \$1 50 per barrel in Philadelphia, and 50 cents a barrel to get it here by way of the district. At my farm the bone stands me in 50 cents a bushel, guano \$3 30 per 100 lbs.; pou-drette \$2 00 per barrel, and plaster \$1 30 per barrel. The benefit of plaster, as far as I have tried it, is very small indeed if any. My land is, however, very poor, mostly a stiff clay, full of white flint stones. Yet it seems very susceptible of improvement, and I am in hopes that when I shall get it a little more improved, the effects of plaster will be more manifest. I have made no experiment till the present fall, to determine the comparative values of bone and guano. My impression is, however, that while the effects of guano may be more striking in the first crop, bone will be more lasting. The experiments with guano and bone, as given in several agricultural publications, are by no means satisfactory to me, because they give a statement of the produce of only the first crop after the application of the manures, where guano, from being in a state more ready to be immediately assimilated in the growing vegetable, would possess a decided advantage over bone, which is in a coarse state principally. The different crops from the time the manures are applied till the ground is broken up again, and the condition and quality of the ground when then broken up, should all be taken into account in making up the estimate of the comparative value of different manures. It is to this end that I am instituting my experiments. I may state, in conclusion, that I have no doubt the effects of bone-dust and guano, are much more striking upon old worn out lands such as these to which I have applied them, than they would be to those that are richer. Indeed it is remarkable that lands that have been long cropped, without having had anything returned to them must eventually become deprived of phosphate of lime, and other inorganic materials, which, existing in but small quantities in soils, are yet indispensably necessary to the growth of grains and nutritious vegetables. And although such soils may contain every other ingredient to vegetable growth, yet wanting the phosphate of lime, grains, clover, &c.,

which contain this, could not grow till it is applied in bone-dust or something. So of other inorganic elements which enter into the vegetable economy.

It would give me great pleasure indeed to have an opportunity of showing thee my experiments, and of going with thee to see cousin and neighbour Roger Brooke, to whom I read thy letter last evening, and who expressed an earnest wish that thou might find time to carry out thy intention as therein expressed.

Thy sincere friend,  
BENJAMIN HALLOWELL.

JOHN S. SKINNER.

From the Farmer's Companion.

Look to the Comfort of your Cattle.—One word to our dairymen and farmers. Winter is upon us, and I am fearful from what I have seen, that it overtook some before they were fully prepared—this is certainly the case in my neighbourhood. The only way to remedy this evil is for those who are in it, to exercise all due diligence in placing their establishments on the winter-footing, which, should always however mild the season, be accomplished on the first of December at least. Nothing is more disagreeable than to see cattle exposed to the "peltings of the pitiless storm." It is the very worst economy, and no good farmer will suffer it.

Cattle require attention at all times, but more especially in the winter season. They must be well fed and sheltered from the weather. Stables dry and airy, are necessary to their comfort and thrift. I would not have them confined entirely; on the contrary, I have a yard in which my cattle exercise themselves whenever the weather is pleasant, and I hold as truth that cattle cannot thrive that are neglected in point of care, shelter or feed. They should be kept clean and well curried—water always at hand and salt at pleasure—my stock has evidently been greatly improved since I adopted this practice two years ago at the suggestion of a Quaker gentleman, whom I accidentally met in your market. The greatest regularity is necessary in the treatment of cattle. Have regular intervals for feeding, keep them well supplied with sweet nutritious hay, in such a situation as to prevent their spoiling what they do not consume. Be particular in feeding roots. My cattle like the rutabaga, and thrive on it—but from some cause owing to a defect in the soil which imparts a disagreeable flavor to the root, or some defect in the root itself, an unpleasant odour is often, not always, imparted to the cream and butter. Now strange as it may seem this taste is not detected in the vegetable when it is cooked and served at table. This induced me to try the sugar beet so strongly recommended in the Farmer's Cabinet.—The yield was about the same in proportion: my cattle were equally fond of them especially my milk cows, and I was much pleased to find that the cream and butter were not only not tainted as before, but the yield of both much greater, and my wife who manages our little dairy insists upon it that the cream is richer and the butter better—sure it is it possesses more of a marrowy taste to the palate. I committed a grand error in not providing a sufficient number of roots for my stock this winter—another year if I live, will, I trust, exhibit different results.

Maple Sugar.—Every man who can conveniently attend to it, should make maple sugar. It can be done when the farmer has but little else to do, so the labor should not be reckoned high. In some sections, fuel, is of but little consequence, and where it is high, strict economy should be practised, as to the mode of boiling. For catching sap, birch baskets answer a temporary purpose, and the cost is a mere trifle. Troughs made of light soft wood, cost but a few cents each where timber is cheap; and they will last long, if housed, or turned upside down, in a pile, and sheltered from the sun and storms. But the most convenient and cheapest vessels in the end, are buckets with iron hoops.

Small Productive Farm.—I raised, the past year, from 30 acres of land, 700 bushels of potatoes, 80 bushels of barley, 25 bushels of beets, 15 bushels of wheat, 10 bushels of beans, 4 tons of mowed oats, 9 tons of English hay, 10 tons of meadow hay, 40 bushels of corn, 20 bushels of carrots 75 chickens and turkeys, and a great variety of garden sauce.

I have killed one hog, weighing 390 lbs, made 400 lbs. of butter, kept three cows, a pair of oxen, two heifers, two steers, eight sheep, four hogs. I have been on the place but two years, and have laid six acres of land to grass; the land a clay loam, easy to work. I mix lime with my compost, and plaster my corn, potatoes and grass. I sort my potatoes before sale. Finally, I cook every thing I give my hogs, and feed warm and keep warm.

A. T. ATKINS.

We suspect that one secret of this admirable success, is in the fact, that besides cultivating in the most perfect style, such crops as were useful, Mr. Atkins took good care not to cultivate any useless crops—that is he did not cultivate any weeds. If we are not greatly mistaken it is a common sight to see, on tillage lands, from which the harvest has just been gathered, a greater amount of weeds left on the ground—greater in bulk and in weight—than the whole of the crop of grain or roots that has been taken off. (We should think this an uncommon sight—N. E. FAR.) Farming so slovenly as this cannot be profitable, until farmers can support their families and stock on weeds. The obvious reason why weeds thus take the place of the crop is, that the cultivator has not time enough to keep his land clean, and that simply because he has too much land in cultivation. The 30 acres of M. Atkins tells the story.—Portland Advertiser.

Bone Dust or Pasture Lands.—There is, perhaps, no county in England where the pasture lands (particularly the poorer soils) have been so much improved during the last ten or twelve years as in Cheshire; and this principally by the application of what is termed bone dust. This extraordinary manure has a peculiar effect upon the poor clay land pastures, for, on the application of boiled bones, a sudden change takes place in the appearance of the fields, and instead of the carnation leaves or pink grass, which so much abounds on this kind of land, a luxuriant herbage presents itself, consisting of red and white clover, trefoil, and other grasses, of which the cattle are so fond, that they eat up almost every thing before them; even thistles and rushes are very much eaten off by the stock after the pastures have been bone dusted.—Correspondent English Agricultural Society.

Molasses Possy.—Put in a saucepan a pint of sugar-house molasses, a teaspoonful of powdered ginger, and a quarter of a pound of fresh butter. Simmer it over hot coals for half an hour, stirring it frequently. Then stir into it the juice of two lemons, two teaspoonfuls of brown sugar; boil the whole for five minutes longer. This is an excellent preparation to relieve colds, and also particularly serviceably to persons subject to constipation.

ANOTHER.—Another good remedy for burns, is a preparation, one part of the lard, one part of rosin, and a half part turpentine, simmered together till all are completely melted. The burns with an application, should be washed daily and dressed with fresh ointment.

Importance of Charcoal.—A fortnight ago we called attention to the increasing evidence as to the value of charcoal, as an agent of cultivation, and we allowed to the employment of it in the Pine-growing at Pictou. We have since received a letter from Mr. Barnes, in which he entirely confirms the statement we then made. "Charcoal," he says, "is the most astonishing article to make use of for all purposes of cultivation, and plants under artificial treatment. I judge