

THE GLEANER:

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

Old Series]

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

[COMPRISED 13 VOLUMES

New Series, Vol. IX.

Miramichi, Monday Evening, December 30, 1850.

No. 10.

Gloucester Agricultural Society.

The Society's Annual Exhibition of Grain, and other articles, is appointed to take place at Bathurst, on TUESDAY, the 13th of February, 1850, at 10 o'clock, A. M. The following Premiums are offered by the Committee:—

Articles.	Smallest quantity eligible	£	s	d
For the best Wheat, 2 bus.,		1	0	0
Second best do.		0	15	0
Third best do.		0	7	6
Best Barley do.		0	15	0
Second best do.		0	10	0
Third best do.		0	5	0
Best Black or Brown Oats, do.,		0	15	0
Second best do.		0	10	0
Best White Oats, do.,		0	15	0
Second best do.		0	10	0
Best Buck Wheat, do.,		0	10	0
Second best do.		0	10	0
Best Indian Corn, do.,	one Copy of Johnston's Report.	0	10	0
Second best do.	do., one Copy of Johnston's Report.	0	10	0
Best Pease, do.,	do., one Copy of Johnston's Report.	0	10	0
Second best do.	do., one Copy of Johnston's Report.	0	2	6
Third best do.	do.,	0	10	0
Best White Beans, 2 bus.,		0	5	0
Second best do.		0	3	6
Third best do.		0	10	0
Best Timothy Seed, 1 bus.,		0	10	0
Second best do.	do., one Copy of Johnston's Report.	0	10	0
Best Clover Seed, do.,	do., one Copy of Johnston's Report.	0	10	0
Second best do.	do., one Copy of Johnston's Report.	0	5	0
Best Carrots, one Barrel,		0	7	6
Second best do.		0	5	0
Best Swedish Turnips, do.,		0	5	0
Second best do.		0	3	6
Best Yellow Turnips, do.,		0	7	6
Second best do.		0	5	0
Best Mangel Wurtzel, do.,		0	10	0
Second best do.		0	10	0
Best Flax Seed, 2 bus.,		0	10	0
Best Hemp Seed, do.,		0	7	6
Best Onions, from seed, 1 bus.,		0	12	6

Dairy.

Best Cheese, 6 lbs.,	0	7	6
Second best do.	0	5	0
Third best do.	0	5	0
Best Butter, 20 lbs.,	0	12	0
Second best do.	0	7	6
Third best do.	0	5	0

Domestic Manufactures.

Best Piece Colored Woollen Cloth, 12 yards,	0	15	0
Second best do.	0	10	0
Best pair Woollen Blankets,	0	12	6
Second best do.	0	7	6
Best Plaid, Wool, checkered,	0	7	6
Second best do., do., do.,	0	5	0
Best piece of Flannel, all wool, 12 yards,	0	10	0
Second best do., do.,	0	7	6
Best piece colored Cloth, cotton and wool, do.,	0	10	0
Second best do., do.,	0	7	6
Best piece of Flannel cotton and wool, do.,	0	7	6
Second best do., do.,	0	5	0
Best Double Mitts, 6 pair,	0	6	0
Second best do., do.,	0	4	0
Best Socks, men's do.,	0	6	0
Second best do., do.,	0	4	0
Best Lambs' Wool Stockings, women's 3 pairs,	0	6	0
Second best do., do.,	0	4	0

It is essential that everything entered for competition shall be of the produce of the County, the property of a Member of the Society, and of the growth of 1850. The Committee will meet on the day of the Show at 9 A. M. The Annual Meeting of the Society will be held in the Court House, at 3 P. M., on the same day, and the Members of the Society will afterwards dine at Mrs Bowser's Hotel.

By Order of the Committee,
G. MACDONNELL, Secretary.

Advertisement.

Twenty Shillings in Cash

Would have insured One Hundred Pounds for Five Years in the Farmers' Fire Company and saved Mr MICHAEL HENRY the inconvenience of bearing the late disastrous effect of fire on his premises, in the Douglassfield settlement. Let those who think they are safe take warning, and guard against the ruinous consequences of Fire and Lightning, by making early application for Policies to any of the Agents—(see advertisement)—or to

K. B. FORBES,
Agent for Miramichi.

Chatham, November, 1850.

Agricultural Journal.

THE TILLERS OF THE SOIL.

Whose are the sturdy hand,
And drive the bright ploughshare,
And make the barren lands
Look beautiful and fair?
Who are that little band,
Who labor, sweat and toil?
The bulwark of our land—
The tillers of the soil!

Who makes this barren earth
A paradise of wealth,
And fills each humble hearth
With plenty, life and health?
Oh! I would have you know,
They are the men of toil—
The men who reap and bless—
The tillers of the soil!

Oh! let me hold the plough,
And drive the bright ploughshare,
And feel that on my brow
Toil's honest sweat is there!
Oh! let me sow and reap,
And learn to bind and coil
The yellow ripened sheaf,
Like a tiller of the soil.

Ye are a nation's stay,
Ye men of worthy strife—
The stars that light the way
To happiness and life,
Then still the plough caress,
Still be your watchword, Toil!
And may God ever bless
The tillers of the soil.

From the Canada Farmer & Mechanic.

AUTUMN PLOUGHING.

On strong clay soils, too much importance cannot be placed to the operation of Fall Ploughing. Although it may be difficult to advance any suggestions for the proper execution of this work, that would under all circumstances be applicable, still a few hints may not be thought out of place, especially as this is the season when most of them may be put into practice. When land is very foul with couch grass, weeds of any description, or wild grasses, it should be ploughed in the autumn, as early as possible; and a light furrow, if neatly turned, is preferable to a deep one, when it is intended to give the land a second furrow in autumn. As soon as a field is ploughed, it should be harrowed a number of times, until the furrow laps are covered, and the whole surface thoroughly pulverised. It may then be allowed to remain undisturbed until the period nearly arrives for the setting in of winter, when it should be cross-ploughed, with an open furrow, as deep as it is possible for the team to plough. Ploughing with an open furrow, or drilling as it is usually termed, resembles very much in appearance, when completed, turnip drills. In performing this work the ploughman need not be alarmed if he brings to the surface a large quantity of subsoil; the whole will become thoroughly pulverised with the winter frost; and when the harrows are put on the land, in the spring, the soil will separate from the couch grass and weeds, and the latter will come to the surface, and may be raked and removed off the land, without much difficulty.

The system of ribbing may also with advantage be practiced, where the land is not foul, and when the ploughman finds himself pressed for time to plough the desired quantity before the setting in of winter. As the furrows are thirty inches apart, a good team, even in the short days of November, may rib without difficulty three acres per day. In all cases where this system of fall ploughing is practiced, it must be understood that the land in the spring will require harrowing, and a seed or cross furrow, averaging in width about twelve inches. The seed being harrowed in lengthwise of the drill, will come up in rows as regularly as if sown with a drilling machine, and may be kept clean with a hand hoe, thus cleaning the land, and preparing it as well for Fall wheat as if Summer fallowed. If those portions of the field that lies low,

and on which water in the autumn and spring is likely to remain stagnated, are drained by running with the plough deep cross furrows; in those places it will greatly facilitate early spring harrowing, ploughing, and seeding. This is obvious, from the fact that the deep open furrows will completely drain the land, provided that the leading channels for conveying the water out of the field are made deep and kept open.

The above system, however, cannot be practised with advantage only under certain circumstances; and therefore it would be better for those farmers who have never put it to the test to do so on a small scale, by which means they will in a very short time be able to judge correctly of the advantages it possesses over other systems of Autumn ploughing.

In those sections of the country where Winter wheat is very subject to rust, and when the subsoil consists of a rich chocolate or straw-colored clay, an excellent means of evading the rust, and of ensuring a large yield of wheat, of a superior sample, is to bring up to the surface, in the autumn, from three to four inches of the subsoil. This may be done either by ploughing from ten to twelve inches deep, with a strong team, with one furrow, or one plough may be made to follow the other, the first ploughing a furrow as deep as can be done with one span of horses, and the second should be made to bring as much as possible of the subsoil to the surface. In the Spring, as soon as the ground becomes sufficiently dry, it should be harrowed, and ploughed lightly, and sown with peas. Ribbing or drilling are preferable to sowing broadcast, for a single horse hoeing of the peas will pulverise the subsoil, and tend to ameliorate its condition, by mixing it with the surface mould, which of course is buried a few inches from the surface.

When the peas are harrowed, the ploughings for wheat may be made about six inches deep, thus mixing the buried surface mould with the subsoil in nearly equal proportions. This system may be new to some, and many may question its efficacy in preventing rust, and in securing to the farmer an average of from forty to fifty bushels of wheat per acre, upon land that would not yield more than half that quantity, and that too, of an inferior quality. If there be any sceptics on this point, it would be well for such to satisfy themselves, by making an experiment of the system here laid down, which, if done even upon a small scale, will, as correctly set the matter to rest, in their own minds, as if it had been done upon a large one. In some instances, autumn ploughing may be executed late in the season, with a well-turned seven by ten-inch furrow, and in the spring will require no other ploughing, for oats, than simply a stirring with one of the improved two-horse cultivators, which if not in general use, should be as speedily as possible, as it greatly facilitates spring work.

Subsoil ploughing may be done with greater advantage late in the fall, when the ground is soft, than at any other season of the year. As subsoil ploughs are very scarce, it is not to be supposed that this mode of deepening the soil can be practiced to any extent. Subsoiling simply consists in ploughing two furrows deep, and the last furrow is not brought to the top, but is allowed to remain in the bottom of the furrow, which is effected by the subsoil plough having no mould board. An iron plough, with the mould board off, makes a good substitute for, and is a pretty correct likeness of a regular subsoil plough. Those who have iron ploughs would do well to make a trial of subsoil ploughing, although it be on a small scale.

Ink spots on mahogany may easily be removed by rubbing them with wet blotting paper, and afterwards rubbing the spot with a dry cloth.

From the Genesee Farmer.

HARROWING WHEAT IN SPRING.

In none of the improvements in agriculture do I find farmers so slow to believe as in harrowing wheat after the ground has settled in the spring. Some ten or fifteen years ago much was said on this subject in the Genesee Farmer, showing the results of experiments, and explaining the reason why it should operate beneficially upon the crop.

Farmers know that a hard crust forms upon ground exposed to the frosts and drying winds of March and April, and that this crust greatly retards vegetation. But the great objection is, it will pull up all the wheat to harrow it. Having practised harrowing my wheat for the last eight or ten years, and uniformly with good effect, I feel disposed to recommend the practice to my brother farmers. Of late years I have been in the habit of ploughing in my wheat at the time of seeding with a gang plough, leaving it in the furrow. In the spring after the ground has become dry, the last of April or early in May, I harrow lengthwise of the furrows, then crosswise, loosening up the ground thoroughly. I should like to do this just before a rain. If the land is to be seeded with clover, I sow on the seed and harrow it in. This I think far more safe than sowing early and trusting to the heavings of the frosts and the wash of rains to cover it. Early sown clover is often killed by the droughts so common in April.

I have been amused at the earnestness with which some of my neighbors would remonstrate with me for harrowing my wheat.—“Such a fine piece of wheat,” say they, “to be spoiled in that manner! He ought to be sent to the mad house.”

And afterwards when the crop showed for itself it was not ruined, “O, it was such a good piece of land, it will produce a good crop in spite of your experiments.” A field of wheat looks bad while under the process of harrowing, as it is prostrated and partly covered with earth; but after a shower it starts up fresh and vigorous, like a field of corn refreshed by a shower after being hoed. I have often examined as to the amount pulled up, and do not believe it will average a bushel upon ten acres. Farmers, try it; and be not frightened by the appearance. I never heard yet of a field injured by it.

MYRON ADAMS.

RECIPES.

Incombustible Whitewash.—Pass fine freshly slacked lime through a fine sieve, and to six quarts of the fine pulverised lime thus obtained, add one quart of the purest salt, and one gallon of water, and boil the mixture and skim it clean. Then to every five gallons of this mixture, add one pound of alum, half a pound of copperas, and slowly add three quarters of a pound of potash, and four quarts of fine sand. It adheres firmly to wood or brick.

Frost proof Cement.—Mix tar with sand; it gradually hardens, and as moisture cannot in the least degree penetrate it, it will never crack by frost. This was proved by the accidental upsetting of a tar barrel on a spot of sand—the cement thus accidentally formed remaining impenetrably hard for years, although under the rain-water spout, and exposed to all weathers.

To Clean Metal Pots.—Put a good sized lump of common soda into the pot, fill it quite full with boiling water; let it remain in the whole of a day and night, and, to keep the water hot for a time, set the pot near a fire. Should a teapot spout have become furred, when the water has been in a sufficient length of time, put a skewer or knitting-needle into the spout, to clean it. It will be afterwards necessary to scald and well wash the pot, to prevent any taste of soda, and remove the fur, which will then come away easily.