

THE GLEANER:

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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. X

Miramichi, Monday Evening, September 1, 1851.

No. 45.

Patent Artificial Slate,

AND
Unchangeable Metallic Paints;
PROOF AGAINST FIRE AND WATER!
Manufactured by the Patentee in Colchester,
Nova Scotia.

The Artificial Slate is the Product of a Mixture of Mineral Substances known to be the best non-conductors of heat as well as the most indestructible; the chemical affinity of which converts the surfaces of materials covered, into a *Coating of Actual Slate*—proof against Fire and Water. Thus are the laws of nature made to accomplish results as surprising as they are useful, by rendering wooden fabrics as durable as brick or stone, and less impervious to moisture, and consequently preventing decay and destruction from corroding influences hitherto supposed unattainable.

The principal ingredients are Allumina, Silicia and the Oxides of Iron. The adhesive quality of the latter not only binds and attracts the particles together, but the substance covered also. The longer exposed to the weather the more powerful the attraction, and consequently the harder the slate. As various shades of color are obtained, Brick buildings may be made impervious to moisture, and the fashionable colours of either *Freestone or Granite*. The oil must be evaporated by the action of the weather before it is fire proof, which will take from nine to twelve months.

The Metallic Paints, Purple and Red, are offered as *weather and water proof solely*. Their base being Iron, secures them from galvanic action so fatal to lead and other paints on iron work—and their chemical combination makes it impossible that any change should take place from atmospheric influence or the action of salt water and sulphuretted hydrogen, so prevalent in sea ports and tidal harbors. They surpass all paints yet discovered in *Cheapness and Durability*, which renders them pre-eminently adapted to the covering of all kinds of iron work, such as Shipping, Mills, Bridges, Steam Machinery, Railway Cars, and Iron Railing. The Metallic Paints have been analysed by Professor Hays, of Boston. The following is an extract from his Certificate:

"As a permanent pigment, this mineral must rank with the most INDESTRUCTIBLE and UNCHANGEABLE bases. For covering Metallic Ware its composition shows that it is eminently fitted.

A. A. HAYES, State Assayer.

Directions.—ARTIFICIAL SLATE, mix the powder with pure boiled linseed oil and a little spirits of Turpentine, to the consistency of very thick Paint, and apply with a common brush, being careful to keep the mixture well stirred while putting it on. One pound will cover ten square feet with two coats.

If shingles have been on for years, it will be necessary to sweep off the moss and lint with a stiff broom; two or three coats of this material will make a perfect slate roof, proof against fire and water.

The Metallic Paints are mixed and put up like an ordinary Paint.
JOHN ROSS, Patentee.

CERTIFICATES.

St. JOHN, June 24, 1850.

J. W. M. Irish, Agent,
Dear Sir,—We have much pleasure in saying, agreeably to your request, and we hope it will assist you in bringing the "Patent Metallic Iron Paint" favorably under the notice of shipowners generally, that we have had several new vessels painted with the purple, and found it all that it is represented by the Patentee's printed circular. One of our vessels was painted with it in October last; she went from here to Liverpool, from Liverpool to Mobile, and in April last we saw her in the latter port looking more like having come out of the painter's hands than having performed the voyages just mentioned.
Yours, &c.,
WM. & R. WRIGHT,
Shipbuilders and Owners.
St. JOHN, N. B., June, 26, 1850.

John Ross, Esq., Patentee of the Purple Metallic Iron Paint,
Sir,—I have just painted a New Ship with your Purple Metallic Iron Paint, and I have much pleasure in stating that I never painted a ship with so small a quantity of Paint and Oil, and look so well. From its adhesive qualities and the manner it covers the wood, I have no doubt but it will be more durable and much cheaper than any other paint used for such purposes, and would recommend it to the public generally.
Yours, &c.,
ROBERT G. MORGAN.
St. JOHN, N. B., July 20, 1850.

John Ross, Esq.,
Sir,—I have lately Painted a new brig with

your Metallic Iron Paint, and have pleasure in stating that I never painted a vessel to look so well at so small a cost, and am fully persuaded it is the best article in use for ship or iron work, and would recommend it to the public generally. It only wants to be tried to prove its cheapness and durability.
Yours, &c.,
JOHN KIRK.
St. JOHN, N. B., July 23, 1850.

John Ross, Esq.,
Sir,—I have used your Patent Metallic Paint, and find it has given perfect satisfaction. I think it is a superior article for any work exposed to the action of salt water, as it stands and wears well in any climate, I do highly recommend for ship work iron covered buildings, &c.

The Artificial Slate Paint, if it was more generally used we should have less fires in our city than we have had. It also preserves the shingles from rot—the cheapness of your Paints is highly in their favor if nothing else.
G. F. THOMPSON, Painter.

John Ross, Esq.,
Sir,—We have great pleasure in bearing testimony to the superior qualities of the Metallic Paint. We tried it on the steamer Maid of Erin, in March, and since on our new ship the Lady Blaney. We consider it cheaper and more durable than any other paint we have ever used.

W. PARKS & SON,
THOMAS PARKS,
Owners "Maid of Erin."
Messrs. JOHNSON & MACKIE are the Agents for the Counties of Northumberland, Gloucester, Kent and Restigouche.
Chatham, June 23, 1851.

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Chatham, June 23, 1851.

Valuable Farm and Grist Mill For Sale or to Let.

The Subscriber will Sell or Let his Farm and Grist Mill, situated about a quarter of a mile above the Cocagne Bridge. The Farm consists of 100 acres of excellent Land, 30 of which is under the plough. The Grist Mill has three run of Stones, Oat Kiln, and a good Dwelling House attached. This is an excellent Property, and well situated for any kind of business, and there can be no better place for Grist. There is also a good SHIP YARD on the premises, with a number of Buildings, which will be Let either with the property or separate. There is a great abundance of the best quality of Juniper.

JAMES LONG.
Cocagne, Kent, July 22, 1851.

Dyeing, Fulling & Dressing.

NELSON, MIRAMICHI.

The Subscriber would inform the Public of Miramichi that his Fulling, Dyeing and Dressing Establishment will be in operation about the middle of August; and persons who wish to avail themselves of the advantages which his Establishment will afford, will please attend to the following Rules:

Cloth to be Milled and Dressed should not be less than a yard in width, and well wove besides, and the Wool for the above mentioned Cloth should be very particularly sorted out so as to have it all of the one kind, and in no case sheared and pulled wool to be put in the same cloth, if intended for the Fulling Mill. If Cotton and Wool, it should be wove Molekin Twill, as it is much the best way to be done.

PRICES:	
For Fulling only,	4d.
Fulling and half Dressing,	6
Do. and full Dressing,	8
Dyeing and Fulling Black, Dark Brown, Olive Brown and Olive Green,	8
Dyeing the above colors and half Dressing,	10
Dyeing and full Dressing,	1s. 0
Dyeing and Dressing Bottle and Invisible Green,	1 3
Dyeing Brown, women's wear,	4
Dyeing and Dressing do.,	6
Dyeing Green do.,	6
Dyeing Green do. and Dressing,	8
Dressing only,	2 3
Dyeing Scarlet, per lb.,	2 6

JOHN FLETT.
The Gentlemen as before mentioned will also act as Agents to receive and forward Cloth.

Nelson, Miramichi, July 4, 1851.
The following Gentlemen will act as Agents, who will forward and return wool: Mr William Park, Douglstown; Mr Patrick Watt, Newcastle; Mr William Muirhead, Chatham.

Agricultural Journal.

From the Journal of the New Brunswick Society for the Encouragement of Agriculture, Home Manufactures and Commerce, throughout the Province.

REPORT OF COMMITTEE ON DRAINING.

According to Professor Johnston's data the average duration of summer in New Brunswick is six months and 22 days, and the average period of the growth of Crops is 3 months and three days.

Nevertheless we often hear it alledged that there is rather too little time in which to do the Spring and Fall work efficiently; and that a few days in the Spring and a few days more in the Fall would put all to rights.

Now there is a method by which the farmer may to a considerable degree extend the period he has to work his land, whereby, in short, a week or two may be added to each end of the Summer—and that is by the judicious drainage of his cultivated fields.

There can be no doubt but that if the farmer can afford it, the soils of this country generally would be ameliorated by a more early and complete removal of the water in the Spring and Autumn. In this way it might easily be shown that the labor required on the land would be less, while the product of the land would be greater.

But it may be said that the farmer has no time for such works as drainage; to this we reply that it is much better economy to take time for this operation at the beginning than to risk the certain deterioration or even the entire loss of his crops for the want of it.—There are always spare days, such as a damp day in harvest or an odd day in the summer, or when the frost stops the ploughing in the fall, when draining may be done to a considerable extent.

In England and in all countries where Agriculture is in an advanced state, the voice of experience is loudly in favor of complete drainage; in fact it is considered to be the foundation of all other improvements in husbandry, and we cannot overlook the necessity of introducing it here to a much greater extent than heretofore. True it is that the soils of England are on the whole heavier than ours, the climate more moist and the summers more cool, but in all cases of land springs or deep springs, or even in clay soils devoid of subterranean springs, or of a light shallow soil resting upon a pan, or hard sub-soil, a good system of drainage will add vastly to the security and the profits of agriculture. If our seasons be short there is so much the more reason for our taking advantage of all the aids which art can give. We cannot affect the climate of the whole region in which we live, but, practically, we can improve the climate at the roots of our growing crops by the removal of superfluous water, and this serves our purpose sufficiently. *A day in Summer saved is a day in Summer gained.*

In order to appreciate the importance of drainage we shall consider first, the influence of water on the plant, and then its influence upon the soil.

All plants require water: They inhale a certain quantity of vapor from the atmosphere by the pores of their leaves, but the greater part of that which they require enters in a liquid form by the spongy extremities of their roots: the spongy rootlets of our usual crops will, if allowed, go down from two to four feet in search of water.

This water contains their food. It flows continually upwards through the plant; the watery particles pass off by the leaves, and the nourishing matters which had been dissolved in the water are built up and formed into the various parts and products of the plant.

Now as plants cannot move about like animals to seek for fresh fields and pastures new, but must take what they find in the

field or pasture where they were born, and where they must remain permanently anchored for life, it is obvious that this water ought to flow through an open soil towards their roots, and be at the same time moderately charged with such materials as are capable of nourishing the plant.

These materials are partly derived from the air, partly from the earthy elements of the soil itself, and partly from the animal and vegetable substances decaying in the soil—that is—from what the farmer calls *manure*.

If the water runs off too rapidly, an insufficient supply of food will enter the plant, and if there should be too much water, not only will the plant be forced to operate upon more water to get the same amount of food from it, but the soil available for food will be diminished in extent, and the very food itself will be deteriorated in quality.

Before manure can become wholesome food for plants, it must decay to a certain extent and become soluble in water; but decay or fermentation cannot go on effectually unless air be present as well as water; if the soil should be full of water, of course, the air cannot penetrate to the decaying materials, and they become sour or acid substances which are not the natural or proper food for growing crops. These will therefore languish and give place to sorrel and moss and other weeds, which are intended by Providence to consume and flourish upon such crude materials. The vigor of these latter overcomes the cultivated species which gradually disappear. Hence wet lands are appropriately termed *Sour Lands*.

In a naturally open and well drained soil the rain water passes freely downwards, bringing air with it and continually offering supplies of fresh food for the plants from the soil and the atmosphere.

But, besides air and moisture, growing plants require a certain degree of heat to start them and give them their most favorable development. We can force any plant as is well known, by artificial heat, we may do so effectually by allowing the natural heat of the sun to produce its fullest effect.

Stones and earth heat more readily than water, and, growing plants whose roots are in a well drained soil will grow more rapidly and work more efficiently. A temperature of 80 or 90 degrees F. suits our grain crops best, but in wet lands their roots must remain in a temperature of 50 or 60 degrees only: and spring water is never so warm as the rain water of summer.

But besides, great portions of the sun's rays go, not towards heating either the water or the soil, but rather towards the formation of vapor from the stagnant water, which rises upwards into the atmosphere. Evaporation, therefore, positively causes cold, and if any one doubts it, let him wet his face with cold water and look out of the window for proof—or let him go out and observe where the frost first strikes his crops, or where the mist lingers longest in the fall.

Wet lands are therefore very appropriately termed *cold lands*.

Again—when water freezes, it enlarges about one-ninth in bulk, and a soil full of frozen water will heave and swell and rise upwards, because there is least resistance to its upward improvement than to its expansion in any other direction; but repeated heavings and rumblings will also bring up and expose the roots of young plants to the sun's rays, which soon destroys—or as it is called, *winter kills them*.

As to the soil, it is obvious from what has been already said, that dry or porous soils, must be warm and early soils, and that soils through which summer rain water and air are gradually filtering will be better than those where stagnant water prevents the proper decomposition of the manure, and by continuous evaporation chills both the surface and the subsoil.