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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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THE FARM IN OCTOBER.

This is the 10th month of the year. Pertegean says our Saxon ancestors called it *Wyn-monat*; *wyn* signifies wine; "and albeit they had not anciently wines in Germany, yet in this season had they them from divers countries adjoining." Dr. F. Sayer says they also called it *Winter-fulleth*.

October, in our climate is a delightful month. The early frost in September brought the first sad symptoms of decay for the year, and prepared our feelings for the general dissolution of the vegetable kingdom which must follow in October. The first shock to our senses being over, we now find the chief beauty of the month arises from vegetable death itself. It is seen everywhere in the drooping vines, the ripening corn and changing leaves with all their lights and shades of green, amber red, light red, light and dark green, white, brown, russet, and yellow of all sorts.—Heavy dews prevail; the mornings and evenings increase in mistiness, while the middle of the day is the perfection of climate.

The orient is lighted with crimson glow,
The night and its dreams are fled,
And the glorious roll of nature now
Is in all its brightness spread.

The autumn has tinged the trees with gold,
And crimsoned the shrubs of the hills;
And the full seed sleeps in earth's bosom
Cold;
And hope all the universe fills."

We delight to linger with the poetry of the farm—for poetry it has at all seasons—to ramble in the forest;

"Where the sound of drooping nuts is heard,
Though all the woods is still."

drop a hook in the dark holes of the winding trout brook, and while waiting for a nibble, call up the memories of old Izaak Walton, and Herbert, or farther back, of Cincinnatus, Cato, and Columella, or sketch upon the sand the quaint cuts in *Harkham's Farewell to Husbandry*, which he has given as samples trees. Ah! these are true enjoyments which every farmer may share—and as we have now alluded to them sufficiently to set his "expectation tip-toe," we will mention some of the other business of the Farm—and first,

OF ITS NEATNESS.—We often form our opinions of the farm and the farmer from the first view we have of the premises, *coup d'œil*, as the French say, when we take in at a glance all its general appearance, and that impression, whether it be favorable or unfavorable, is strongly retained on the mind. And this appearance is a pretty good indication of what the farmer in reality is—whether farmer Trim or farmer Slack, and his profits will usually be in accordance with the habits which he has chosen from one of the two characters. Neatness in the house, barn, door, yard, and under the fences and walls, indicate economy and thrift; bright implements and order in arrangement indicate cheerfulness and contentment, while well-fed horses, cattle and swine, with sleek hides and fat ribs, indicate a feeling heart, as well as the other virtues mentioned.—When these are combined, united with the habits of a good parishoner, the farm becomes the blest abode of man. He need not sigh for the Eden of the Euphrates, or power and popularity as bestowed by the world; his Paradise is begun, fashioned by his own hands, watered by the rain, and visited by the sunshine of heaven, and whose memory thereof, shall never be blotted from his mind.

October is the month, of all seasons, for the farmer to establish throughout his borders this neatness and order, the stamp of genuine farming. He will level the humps and hillocks of his fields, and scatter them with manure and grass seed; level double, and fill up, dead furrows; dig out bushes from the wall, and cart away the rich earth which has been turned against it for many successive years, and prepare it for a crop of potatoes next spring, so that a year's cultivation may exterminate the roots. He will gather the rank weeds (if he has been so unwise as to let them stand

all this time) and small brush, and deposit them with muck and quick lime for future use. Loose stones will be collected and form the sluiceway for under-ground ditches, and larger ones laid into substantial wall. The fast rock "in the clover lot" upon which three ploughs have been broken and deposited where it can no more mar the beauties of that fine field. The front yard fence, and all the gates may be repaired while the fingers are nimble, and he can make a tenon and mortice without "blowing his fingers."

COMPOST HEAPS.—See to these—you all know how.

POTATOES.—Dig as soon as they are ripe, lay them in moderate parcels and exclude the light.

SEEDS.—Save the best and earliest of every kind, and more, satisfy yourselves by observation and inquiry what the effect of so doing will be upon your future crops.

CORN FODDER.—Carefully secure it all, this year particularly. Do not waste the large stalks, but cut and mix them with meal; they are nutritious, and in that form will do good service.

CORN.—Keep it cool in the barn floor before husking; it had better stand in the field than heat in the barn. Spread the ears thin or pile them in well-aired bins.

CORN FIELDS.—Towards the last of the month spit the "Indian hills," if it is neater husbandry and we think better economy to gather the roots and stems and add them to the heaps of weeds, brush and quick lime. It gives clear and pleasant blowing in the spring.

YOUNG TREES.—Take away all stubble, grass or weeds from their stems, so that mice may not find materials for their nests; then bank the trees with clear earth, and they are ready for winter. Where trees stand in mowing ground it will be well to clear away the grass roots and throw fine manure or loam close to their trunks.—This will keep the mice away, and be a good fertilizer when spread early in the spring.

PRUNING.—Look after and shape the heads of young trees, and wherever a wound is left half an inch in diameter, cover it with wax cloth, paint or gum.

ROOTS.—Gather roots before heavy frosts occur, and store them carefully away.—Roots should be perfectly matured before gathering, but collected as soon as that takes place, and much of the saccharine principle, which is the fattening one, is destroyed.

APPLES.—Winter apples should be carefully picked by hand. Keep them in a cold, moist cellar, the colder the better if they do not freeze.

Plow where you can, and do a thousand other things for which the favorable time is October. Do it all cheerfully, and "with a will," as the sailors say, and Heaven will prosper your endeavors.

From the Albany Cultivator.

FALL PLOUGHING.

The question is often asked whether fall ploughing is advisable? It may be advantageous or injurious according to the character of the soil, and the circumstances under which it is performed. Soils which are too loose in their texture are liable to have their soluble matter drenched out of them, if stirred late in the fall, by the heavy rains of winter and spring. Hill-sides are also liable to be washed and gullied by the same causes.

Again, the particular time in the fall at which ploughing should be done, is an important point, and this must be determined by the objects which it is sought to obtain. If the land is in grass and it is wished to have the sward rotted by the following spring, the ploughing should be done early in autumn, in order that the warm weather may bring on decomposition before winter. If ploughing is deferred till the commencement of cold weather, but little change will take place in the sward before spring—so little that in cross-ploughing, much of the grass will be found alive, and by being again brought to the surface, will grow and obstruct the growth of the crop which is put on the land, or increase the expense of cultivation.

On clayey soils, there is still another disadvantage in connection with late ploughing,

if it is done in the ordinary way. The soil is liable to be made into mortar, and run together by rains, so that by seeding time it becomes closely packed. It is difficult after this to bring the soil into the friable condition required to fit it for a crop, without ploughing again, and that operation would bring back the undecomposed sod, to which, as just remarked, there are weighty objections.

So far as regards the improvement of the texture of soils, it may be assumed that those of a clayey and tenacious nature, and those only, may be benefited by late ploughing. The improvement in such case results from the division of their particles by the action of frost; by this their cohesion is overcome, and access given to the air, which dispels acids injurious to vegetation thus rendering soluble and available to plants, the food that was before inert. But these desirable results can only be obtained by the soil being frozen when it is in a comparatively dry state. If it is wet at the time it is frozen, and remains so till it is thawed and settled, no pulverising effect, is produced, the favourable agency of the air is excluded, and the soil remains in an ungenial state.

To obtain these advantages of the frost the soil should be thrown into narrow ridges, by turning two furrows together, in the manner called back-furrows. The furrows should be made in the direction best calculated to drain off the water, without allowing it to form large streams as these might gully the soil. This kind of ploughing can be done to the best advantage on land that has been under cultivation one season, or more. It can be done with sward ground, but, as before stated, the grass will come to the surface when it is cross-ploughed in the spring, requiring much labor to destroy it. If, however, sward ground were ploughed in August or the first of September, the sward would become dead, and so far decomposed by November, that it might be cross-ploughed in ridges with advantage. The latter is the season the ridging can be done the better, as the soil will be more fully exposed to the action of the frost, before the ridges have been washed down with rains. The ridges should be made as high and narrow as practicable, in order that the frost and air may act thoroughly on the soil.

There is no operation which tends so much to produce friability in tenacious soils, or which so much develops their fertility, and ensures the growth of crops, as ploughing them late in the fall, in the manner above described. But to derive the full advantages of the operation, the soil should be properly under-drained. This will admit the descent of water so readily that the soil will remain permeable and open; but if the water remains long in the soil, the beneficial effects of pulverization will be comparatively temporary. The soaking of the soil will reduce it to its former heavy condition.

Other advantages are claimed for fall ploughing, which do not relate to the improvement of the soil: such as that of the destruction of worms, in some instances the killing of noxious plants, and in other instances the convenience of doing the work at a season when the farmer has more leisure, and his team is, perhaps in a better condition to labor, and may be kept at less expense than in the spring.

As to the destruction of Insects, such accurate experiments have not so far as we know been made, as would show the advantages of fall ploughing in this respect. It may be remarked, however, that worms prepare themselves for winter by descending into the earth, more or less: and if, after they have fixed themselves in their position, they are turned up to the air, while the weather is so cold as to prevent their motion, it is reasonable to suppose that before spring many of them would be killed. It is thought that this has been favorable to the destruction of wire worms, which are generally most prevalent on deep soils and those of a mucky character, though they sometimes do much injury on clays.

Which grass, or couch-grass, may be to some extent destroyed by ploughing just at the setting in of winter. Those who have had experience with this pernicious grass know how great a nuisance it is, and diffi-

cult to eradicate. To destroy it by frost the ground should be ploughed in ridges. The plough should run, if practicable, to the bottom of the roots, that they may all, if possible, be exposed to the air and frost. The rains will wash out much of the earth, especially in sandy soils, leaving the roots bare, and the alternate freezing and thawing in this situation, will deprive many of them of vitality.

HINTS FOR HOUSE KEEPERS.

Silk cannot be ironed smoothly so as to press out all the creases without first sprinkling it with water and rolling it up tightly in a towel—letting it rest for an hour or two. If the iron is the least hot, it will injure the color, and it should be tried on an old piece of the same silk. Bright colored silks or ribbons, such as pinks, blues, yellows, greens, &c., always change color on the application of an iron. Blacks, browns, olives, grays, &c. look very well after ironing. Silks should always be ironed on the wrong side.

THE CURATE'S PUDDING.—To one pound of mashed potatoes, while hot, add four ounces of suet and two ounces of flour, a little salt, and as much milk as will give it the consistence of common suet pudding. Put it into a dish, or roll it into dumplings, and bake a fine brown.

TO MAKE CAKES THAT WILL KEEP FOR SOME TIME.—Mix two pounds of flour, one pound of sugar, and one ounce of caraway, with four or five eggs and a few spoonfuls of water, to make a stiff paste; roll it thin and cut it to any shape. Bake on tins lightly floured. While baking, boil a pound of sugar in a pint of water to a thin syrup; while both are hot dip each cake into it, and put them on tins into the oven to dry for a short time; and when the oven is cooler still, return them there again and let them stay four or five hours.

QUACKERY.—In Aylesbury, the sale of ducks realised fifteen thousand pounds a year; in Norfolk and Cambridge the small farmers pay their rents with the produce of their poultry. Mr Bayley stated, at a meeting lately held in St. Albion's, that in nine years he sold to the value of eighty one thousand pounds, and that in the same period he and his father sold conjointly two hundred thousand pounds worth of poultry and also that during these nine years he paid three thousand pounds in wages. In Kent and Surrey three hundred thousand pounds is received annually for poultry. It has been proved that a hen is more profitable than one ewe.

TO CLEAN DECANTERS AND WITHDRAW STOPPERS.—There is often much difficulty experienced in cleaning decanters, especially after port wine has stood in them for a time. The best way is to wash them out with a little pearlash and warm water, adding a spoonful or two of fresh slacked lime, if necessary. To facilitate the action of the fluid against the sides of the glass, a few small cinders may be used. Another annoyance which frequently occurs, is that the stopper of glass bottles and decanters become fixed in their places so firmly, that in the attempt to remove them, the necks are sometimes broken. In such cases, knocking the stopper gently with a piece of wood, first on one side then on the other, will generally loosen it. If this method does not succeed, a cloth wetted with hot water and applied to the neck, will sometimes expand the glass sufficiently to allow the stopper to be easily withdrawn.

A HAM has an excellent flavor boiled as follows: Preparatory to cooking, soak it well in vinegar and water; then boil in water with some heads of celery, two or three turnips, five or six onions, and a handful of sweet herbs. Put the ham in cold water, and allow it to heat very gradually. One of sixteen pounds will require four and a half hours.

REMEDY FOR CORNS.—Take equal portions of mercurial and galbanum ointments well mix, spread on a bit of leather, and apply to the corns morning and evening.

A LOTION FOR WEAK EYES.—Twenty drops of laudanum and five drops of brandy in a wineglass of water. Apply three times a day as wann as the eye will bear it.