station from which he has been degraded, and place him, as in former ages, upon a more dignified footing—an object of *acknowledged* luxury; and thereby introduce a more correct system of breeding and management, in which our countrymen are so generally deficient, consequently more perfect animals and such an advance in the price of them, that will afford the farmer what he is now a stranger to—such remuneration as will make his *brood mares* a profitable species of stock. And it is obvious, that the system will be followed by an improvement in the breed of *mules*, in the same ratio as the miserable race of *scrub* mares, which are now consuming the profits of agriculture, shall become extinct.

It does not appear that the horse was employed by the *ancients* for any purpose of husbandry. The *ox* and *ass* drew the *plough* and the *wain*, and performed all kinds of drudgery until after the *feudal system* was established in Europe; when the numerous *retainers* of the *feudal lords*, who held their lands by the TENURE of performing *knight's service*, found themselves under the necessity of making the horses they were obliged to keep, contribute towards their support in the cultivation. From this time I believe, we may date, and to this cause may be attributed the introduction of the *horse* for the purposes of agriculture. Since that period, the history of Europe is little else than the annals of *war* and its preparations; and no material for that *scourge*, except the deluded *human victims*, seems more necessary than the horse; accordingly we find that throughout the whole country, from the *Rhine* or the *Seine* to beyond the *Danube* and *Vistula*, which has been the principal *arena*, the system of agriculture has embraced, extensively, the breeding of horses of different grades and forms adapted to the several uses in war. Indeed whole provinces were appropriated almost exclusively to the rearing those animals for disposal to the different combatants; and it must be obvious, that their general use in husbandry, at the same time, would follow as a necessary consequence. It cannot be expected therefore, but that the *Dutch* and *Germans* who have emigrated to our country, should bring with them such strong predilections for the horse, which have continued with most of their descendants, especially in those sections where communities of that respectable and industrious portion of our population have been located. In *Great Britain*, to the causes which have produced the effects described on the continent, may be added the insular position of the United Kingdoms, vulnerable from numberless and distant points, the horse has been considered, in connection with the unconquerable spirit of the nation, as one of the most efficient means of repelling invasion. A circumstance that would of itself be sufficient to account for the *overweaning* attachment to this animal. But identified, as his services have been for a long period, with the convenience, sports, and recreations of all ranks and classes, and the science of *breeding* and *training* forming a characteristic feature, it could not excite surprise, if the approach of that terrible spectre, *famine* should produce little or no effect in the reduction of the number. And although some of the most distinguished characters in the nation, eminent for their practical knowledge in rural economy, have been for half a century advocating the substitution of the ox for the purposes of agriculture, and demonstrating the feasibility, economy, and vast saving of food, yet it is said the number of labouring oxen have lately diminished and horses increased. FIVE MILLIONS of the latter are now supposed to subsist in the United Kingdom, & two thirds employed in husbandry,—consuming, at a moderate estimate, the product of *twenty millions* of highly cultivated acres! And what is the consequence? *consumption*, follows so close upon *supply*, that at every season of *harvest*, *let the preceding one be never so abundant*, fast sailing vessels are found in the various ports, with their anchors *atrip*, to convey intelligence of the *result* to all parts of the world where a surplus of bread corn is grown,—exciting such an interest in our own country, that the *farmer* on the shores of *Erie* and *Ontario*, and on the banks of the Ohio, may be seen reading *bulletins* of *British weather*—the *rain* and *sunshine* of every day in *August* and the *two* following months—often within thirty days after the time of their publication in London or Liverpool. Can it be supposed that in a country, where an attachment to the horse borders so nearly upon *infatuation*, that the question of the utility of the *mule* as a substitute, would be seriously agitated, or engage scarce a momentary investigation?

In no country is the mule better adapted to all the purposes of husbandry, for which the horse is used, than in every section of our own. And it would be highly desirable to be able to exhibit a calculation of the actual saving, *in dollars and cents*, by his employment; but, unfortunately, no correct data can be had. And as I consider such calculations, unless founded upon experimental facts, *and those multiplied*, to be as "tinkling cymbals," I shall merely submit a *desultory* comparison between the *mule* and the *horse*, derived from such facts as my own experience, and information from authentic sources, will justify the assumption of.

From what has been stated respecting the longevity of the mule, I think it may be fairly assumed, that he does not deteriorate more rapidly after *twenty* years of age than the horse after *ten*, allowing the same extent of work and similar treatment to each. The contrast in the mule's freedom from malady or disease, compared with the horse, is not less striking. Arthur Young, during his tour in Ireland, was informed that a gentleman had lost several fine mules by feeding them on wheat straw *cut*. And I have been informed that a *mule dealer*, in the western part of New York, attributed the loss of a number of young mules, in a severe winter, when his hay was exhausted, to feeding them exclusively on *cut* straw and *Indian corn* meal. In no other instance have I ever heard or known of a mule being attacked with any disorder or complaint, except two or three cases of inflammation of the *intestines*, caused by gross neglect in permitting them to remain exposed to cold and wet, when in a high state of perspiration after severe labour, and drinking to excess of cold water. From his light frame and more cautious movements, the mule is less subject to casualties than the horse. Indeed, it is not improbable, but a farmer may work the same team of mules above *twenty years*, and never be presented with a *farrier's* bill, or find it necessary to exercise the art himself.

Sir John Sinclair, in his "Reports on the Agriculture of Scotland," remarks that "if the whole period of a horse's labour be fifteen years, the first six may be equal in value to that of the remaining nine; therefore a horse of ten years old, after working six years, may be worth half his original value." He estimates the annual decline of a horse to be equal to fifty per cent on his price every six years, and supposes one out of twenty five that are regularly employed in agriculture, to die every year: constituting a charge of four per cent. per annum for insurance against diseases and accidents. He considers five acres of land, of medium quality, necessary for the maintenance of each horse, and the annual expense, including harness, shoeing, farriery, insurance and decline in value, allowing him to cost $200, to exceed that sum about *five per cent*, which is the only difference between the estimate of this illustrious and accurate agriculturist, and that of a respectable committee of the *Farmer's Society of Barnwell district*, South Carolina, who, in a report published in the Charleston Courier, of 23d of February last, state, that "the annual expense of keeping a horse is equal to his value!" The same committee also state, that at four years old a horse will seldom sell for more than the expense of rearing him." That 'the superiority of the *mule* over the horse, had long been appreciated by some of their most judicious planters; that two mules could be raised at less expense than one horse; that a mule is fit for service at an earlier age, if of sufficient size—will perform as much labour, and if attended to when first put to work, his gait and habits may be formed to suit the taste of the owner.' This report may be considered a most valuable document, emanating, as it does, from enlightened *practical* farmers and planters, in a section of our country where we may suppose a horse can be maintained *cheaper* than in *Maryland* or any state farther north.

I am convinced that the small breed of mules will consume less in proportion to the labour they are capable of performing, than the large race, but I shall confine the comparison to the latter—those that stand from fourteen and a half to rising of fifteen hands, and equal to any labour that a horse is usually put to. From repeated experiments, in the course of two winters, I found that *three mules* of this description, that were constantly at work, consumed about the same quantity of *hay*, and only one fourth the *provender* that was given to *two* middling sized *coach horses* moderately worked. And from many years attentive observation, I am led to believe that a *large sized* mule will not require more than from *three fifths* to *two thirds* the food, to keep him in good order, that will be necessary for a horse performing the same extent of labour. Although a mule will work and endure on such mean and hard fare, that a horse would soon give out upon, he has an equal relish for that which is good; and it is strict economy to indulge him, for no animal will pay better for *extra keep* by *extra work*. But if by hard fare, or hard work, he is reduced to a *skeleton*, two or three weeks rest and good keeping will put him in flesh and high condition for labour. I have witnessed several such examples with subjects twenty years old; so much cannot be said of a *horse* at half that age. The expense of shoeing a mule the year round, does not amount to more than *one third* that of a horse, his hoofs being harder, more horney, and so slow in their growth, the shoes require no removal, and hold on till worn out; and the wear, from the lightness of the animal, is much less.

In answer to the charge generally prevalent against the mule, that he is '*vicious*, *stubborn* and *slow*,' I can assert, that out of about twenty that have been employed on my estate at different periods during a course of *thirty years*, and those picked up chiefly on account of their *size* and *spirit*, wherever they could be found, *one* only had any vicious propensities and those might have been subdued by proper management when young. I have always found them *truer pullers* and *quicker travellers*, with a load, than horses. Their vision and hearing is much more accurate. I have used them in my *family carriage*, in a *gig*, and under the *saddle;* and have never known one to start or run from any object or noise; a fault in the horse that continually causes the maiming and death of numbers of human beings. The mule is more steady in his draught, and less likely to waste his strength than the horse; hence more suitable to work with *oxen;* and as he walks faster, will habituate them to a quicker gait. But for none of the purposes of agriculture does his superiority appear more conspicuous than ploughing among crops; his feet being smaller and follow each other so much more in a line, that he seldom treads down the ridges or crops. The facility of instructing him to obey *implicitly* the voice of his driver or the ploughman, is astonishing. The best ploughed tillage land I ever saw, I have had performed by two mules *tandem* without lines or driver.

There is one plausible objection often urged against the mule, that 'on *deep soils* and *deep roads*, his feet being so much smaller than those of the horse, sink farther in;' but it should be considered that he can extricate them with as much greater facility.

Few can be ignorant of the capacity of the mule to endure labour in a temperature of *heat* that would be destructive to the horse, who have any knowledge of the preference for him *merely on that account*, in the West Indies, and in the Southern states.

It is full time to bring our comparison to a close; which I shall do by assuming the position, that the *farmer*, who substitutes *mules* for *horses*, will have this portion of his animal labour performed with the expense of *one spire of grass* instead of *two;* which may be equal, so far to making 'two spires grow where one grew before.' For although a large sized mule will consume somewhat more than half the food necessary for a horse, as has been observed, yet if we take into the account the saving in expense of *shoeing*, *farriery*, and *insurance* against *diseases* and *accidents*, we may safely affirm, that a clear saving of *one half* can be fully substantiated. But in addition to this, the *mule* farmer may calculate with tolerable certainty, upon the continuation of his *capital* for *thirty years;* whereas the *horse* farmer, at the expiration of *fifteen years*, must look to his *crops*, to his *acres*, or a *Bank*, for the renewal of his—or, perhaps, what is worse, he must commence *horse jockey* at an early period.

The intense interest with which the public mind is at present occupied on the subject of canals now in operation and progress, encourages me to offer the *mule* as an important *auxiliary* in the economy of their management; as, I trust, it will not be denied, that on the *cheapness* of transportation on them, depends their *utility* as well as *profit* to the stockholders. The mule seems so peculiarly adapted for the labour on canals, that compared with the horse, he may be considered almost equal to a *locomotive power engine*. Among the advantages we have enumerated respecting his use in husbandry, the most of which are applicable to canal labour, that of the much greater security from *diseases* and *casualties*, which must necessarily require a great number of supernumery *horses*, to prevent interruption in the line of passage, is not the least important; nor is the very trifling expense at which the mule can be supported during the winter months, as he will bear being taken off his *feed* till the boats are about to be launched in the spring, and in a few days can be made fit for efficient duty—while a *horse* will require at least *half* feed *if he does nothing*, or must be *fed high* for some time before he can resume the labour that will be demanded of him. The same advantages may be derived by his employment on *railways*.

In a communication, published in the *Utica Observer*, the 16th of May, inst., by Henry Seymour, Esq., one of the *canal commissioners* of New York, it is stated that a *packet boat* on the Erie canal requires a team of *three* horses to tow sixteen miles—going eighty miles in the twenty four hours, including stoppages and detention at locks; the *relays* demanding fifteen horses for each *nautical* day. If it takes five days for a boat to be towed from Lake Erie to the Hudson, *seventy five* horses will be required. I am not certain but it may be done in a little less time, but as there must always be supernumeraries kept, we shall be within bounds to estimate that number. In the same communication, the expense of each horse is estimated at *fifty cents* per day, I presume for subsistence *only* without reference to *interest* or deterioration of *capital*, for the object of the estimate seems merely to show a *comparison* between the *packet boats* and *freight boats*, on a question of *profit and loss;* as it is remarked, that "many *contingent* expenses might be added to both." Taking this *data*, it will cost *thirty five dollars* per day for the *horse* subsistence of a single packet boat. The *freight boats* require but *two*, and allowing for the time occupied in taking in and discharging their cargoes, with the other necessary detentions, average *forty miles* per day—which being double the time of the packet boats, although they may not require the same number of *relays*, the expense cannot materially differ. From these premises we may conclude, that for every *boat* navigating the *grand Erie canal*, there must be expended *three hundred and fifty dollars* for the subsistence of the *horses*, each time they tow her from the Lake to the Hudson and back. Now, if this can be done as effectually by *mules* for one half this sum, and with an extension of *capital free of interest*, *fifteen years longer* than that vested in *horses*, the aggregate of this immense saving will appear by ascertaining the number of *boats* at the present time on the canal. But this is out of my power; and I should, perhaps, lead the reader *nearer the verge of incredulity*, were I to offer my own prediction what that number *will* be, thirty years hence, the ordinary period of a mule's labour, and which will *then* be some years less than a *single* century since the PRIME MOVER and GUARDIAN of this *stupendous undertaking*, the present Governor of New York, first saw the light of heaven.

I cannot resist an impulse to exhibit the *mule* in one other point of view. For the movement of *machinery*, the employment of this animal, when judiciously selected, has met with a most decided preference, in comparison with the horse, independent of the *economy* in using him. And if we consider the rapid, and probably progressive increase of *labour-saving* machines, in every department where they can be made subservient to the requirements of society, it is evident that there will be a corresponding demand for *animal* power, as well as for that, *more potent*, derived from the elements; and although the *latter* may *vastly* predominate, yet should the *horse* be employed, and his increase for other purposes continue, as it now does, in the *ratio* of population, the number, at no very distant period, may become as alarming in our own, as it is at present in our *mother country*. And notwithstanding we may feel secure, from the extent of our territory and extreme diversity of *soil* and *climate*, but, above all, from being in possession of *Indian corn*,—the GOLDEN FLEECE found by our "*pilgrim fathers*," when they first landed on these shores; yet such peculiar advantages may not insure us against the visitations of one of the most distressing calamities that a feeling community can possibly be subjected to.

Brighton, Mass., May 27, 1825.

FOREIGN.

[From the Baltimore American.]

SPAIN.--If we may judge from the complexion of the intelligence afforded by the last arrival from England, the Allied Powers will experience more difficulties in deciding what shall be done with the Spanish monarch than with the South American republics. It appears now from public documents signed with the official signature of the Spanish monarch, that all freemasons who shall assemble in the Peninsula with the badges of their order, shall be tried and put to death within three days after their apprehension; a lodge having been arrested in Grenada, the king ordered them to execution without the forms of trial. His other decrees only change the terms of this mockery of justice—he condemns the freemasons to trial first, and as a matter of course, to death afterwards—no other evidence will be required than the simple apprehension of freemasons in the act of holding their meetings. General Bessieres, formerly one of the most resolute of the royal party, has been in the same summary way condemned to, and has undergone the punishment of death. He had endeavoured to excite an insurrection against Ferdinand, not in favour of the constitutional party, but to place the Infant Don Carlos, the brother of the Spanish monarch, upon the throne of Spain. There is every reason to believe that Don Carlos himself is at the bottom of this insurrection. The royal decree subjecting to the penalty of death all those who favoured that insurrection, or aided or abetted it in any way, whatever may be their estate, class or condition. clearly points out the King's own brother as one of the suspected culprits. No other delay by the terms of this decree is to be admitted, than that the culprits shall be allowed Christian consolation in articulo mortis. It has been more than suspected that the late insurrection raised by the Queen of Portugal for the dethronement and imprisonment of her husband, and the conspiracy to dethrone Ferdinand and to put the Infant Don Carlos on the throne of Spain, were but the same insurrection, organized at one and the same time, both in Spain and in Portugal. The question then presented for the Holy Alliance, in case they interfere, to decide is this—what shall be done to establish a government when the popular party conspire against the royal family, and the members of the royal family conspire against each other? In this double headed conspiracy, what part shall be taken by the Holy Alliance? But does not this dissention in the royal family clearly prove that the reign of Ferdinand is drawing to its close. The holy allies have tried this Sovereign; they have placed him on the throne of his ancestors and he has been proved incompetent to the management of his own sceptre. It is hardly probable that the allies will exert themselves any further in his behalf.—He has lost all his transatlantic colonies forever—He has done every thing but ruin the peninsula itself; his royal treasury is bankrupt, his armies unfaithful, his councils divided. He sees nothing but ruin before him, and disgrace and infamy behind. Beset by foes in his own family, foes in his cabinet, foes in his army, the probability is that the holy allies will once more interfere and compel this imbecile monarch to resign his crown and sceptre into the hands of Don Carlos, and favour this insurrection for the restoration of royalty.

The London Courier of the 8th says—"The situation of Spain at the present moment necessarily occupies the attention of the cabinets of Europe. She seems to be fast retrograding to that point which, two years ago, was considered to be a sufficient cause for the intervention of her allies; and as it must now be confessed that the remedies which were then proposed, have not produced the results that were anticipated, it becomes a question of deep political interest to consider what other measures are likely to be adopted, and under what auspices. In approaching this delicate and difficult subject, the policy which France may be disposed to pursue, obviously presents itself as of paramount importance, but it is, of course, no easy task, at this particular juncture, to affirm with confidence what course that policy will positively take. The Paris Journals afford us no aid: They are disputing a portion of them at least, about the accuracy and comparative importance of events which have taken place: while the ministerial papers have avoided, altogether, any allusion to the precise conduct which the French government may find it expedient to adopt. We believe, that some important resolutions, connected not only with the Peninsula, but with the South American states, are about to be determined, and in concurrence, probably, with the views of all the principal European powers."

Bessieries, the Spanish royalist chief of a faction, who had attached a party to him, and was in open hostility to the government, has been taken and shot.

The Empecinado, a chief of the opposite party and who has lain for some time in prison, has also, by command of the King, been executed. Is this to show impartiality? We are ill informed of the secret springs of these apparently strange notions. Some unfortunate free masons, against which society a severe decree had recently been issued by the King, had been taken, and were ordered for execution within three days.

From the Madrid Gazette.

Royal Decree, ordering the Free-masons taken in Flagrante, to be punished within the 3d day, conformably to the laws.

A lodge of Freemasons having been seized in the city of Grenada, through the activity and zeal of the police, in the act of holding their dark meeting, clothed in their ridiculous garments, and surrounded by the instruments and emblems used by this reprobate sect, the enemy of the altar and the throne; and it being proper to punish in an exemplary manner, and in conformity to the laws and my Royal Decrees, so shameless an audacity on the part of these criminals, which has scandalized my faithful and religious subjects, I have thought fit to decree as follows.

Art. 1st. All the persons seized in the flagrant act aforesaid, in the Freemasons' Lodge of Grenada, shall, within the peremptory term of three days after the publication of this my Royal Decree in the said city, undergo the punishments imposed by the laws of these my kingdoms, and more particularly by my Decree of the 1st August, 1824, (meaning death.)

2d. All who may be hereafter apprehended, in whatsoever part of the kingdom it may be, in the same manner as those of Grenada have been, shall be tried and punished in the same peremptory term of three days, &c. Signed by the King.

San Ildefonso, Aug. 21, 1825.

"*Madrid, Aug.* 28—The death of Paul Iglesias has produced among the people of Madrid opposite sensations. When they saw arrive, drawn on a hurdle, a man whom they had known as one of the most flourishing citizens of the capital, a general sentiment of pity was manifested. But Iglesias mounted the scaffold, and having already the cord round his neck, asked to speak. "Spaniards, my brothers," said he, "I have been devoted to liberty; I die like a Christian; I have received the aids of religion; pray for me: I die for my country: for you all: learn from me to die with courage." Here the executioner threw himself off with him, and Iglesias, already suspended, cried with a loud voice, "Liberty or Death." At this unexpected incident cries of "Long live the King," burst from all parts. In the midst of these shouts an exclamation of an opposite character was heard. It was with difficulty that the individual from whom it proceeded was saved from the hands of the people.

"The Royalist Volunteers of Salamanca have voted an address to the King, to solicit from him the re-establishment of the Holy Office, in order to secure public tranquility in Spain."

Execution of the Empecinado.—The Madrid Gazette announces the tragical end of this patriot.—The following account of his last moments is furnished by an inhabitant of Rhueda, where the unfortunate General was hanged. In his will the Empecinado bequeathed four pieces of cloth, which belonged to him, and were in the possession of a friend, for the use of the royalist volunteers of Rheuda, from whom he had suffered such horrible treatment. When he came out of the prison to undergo his punishment, he became violent with rage on finding that it was intended to put him upon an ass. He refused, and went to the place of execution on foot with great firmness. When he had reached the foot of the gallows, he suddenly made so great an effort that he burst the cords by which his arms were confined. He then attempted to rush through the line of soldiers who surrounded him, and no doubt he would have escaped if he had been armed; but as it was, he was attacked and beaten down with blows. A rope was then passed round his neck, and the hangman who was upon the gallows, leaped upon him, and with the assistance of some bystanders put him to death. As the wretch was returning to Valladolid, after the execution, he was welcomed in several villages with the ringing of bells.—*Courier Francais.*

FAYETTEVILLE, (N. C.) Oct. 12.

A PRODIGY.—The following is so remarkable that we should hesitate in giving it publicity, did not our information come from the most unquestionable source:

There is at the present time, in Marion District, S. C. a boy child, the son of a black woman belonging to Mr. John M'Leod, who at the age of three months, walked a quarter of a mile with ease and without assistance. He is not quite nine months old, yet speaks sensibly and deliberately—rides on horseback to any place, when assisted to mount, and does not weigh more than from eight to ten pounds. He ofttimes grasps the horse firmly by the mane, throws his heels in the air, and performs several other antic tricks with all the agility of an equestrian monkey.

Dr. M'Kenzie, who has the mother of the boy under his charge, vouches for the correctness of the above statement, besides others who have been eye-witnesses of the fact.

PRICES CURRENT....BALTIMORE, Oct. 24.

FLOUR—Sup. Howard st. per bbl.		$5 37½ a 5 50
" City Mills, superior qual.	"	5 25 a
Do. standard qual.	"	4 87½ a 5
" Susquehanna,	"	none
Wheat—red, per bush.		95 a 100
white,	"	100 a
Corn—white,	"	53 a 55
yellow,	"	55 a 56
Rye, per bush.		56—*Pat.*

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