

The Farmers' Column.

Wheat Culture and its Enemies.

Wheat culture is the most important of all agricultural products, and has more influence upon the world than any other. Wheat is the staple for bread, and the progress of civilization and intellectual culture can be traced by the extent of its growth and consumption.

Over 200,000,000 bushels of wheat are annually raised in this country, and we have the soil and machinery for an almost unlimited expansion of the product. The best soils for wheat are the clays, clay and lime, clay and sand, clay and loam. There must be clay for a succession of good crops. Muck or vegetable deposit is not adapted to wheat culture because it produces large wheat stalks, and but little or no grain.

Underdraining will do more to promote the growth of wheat, on most soils, than any one thing. Clay contains the food for the wheat plant, but it is also the most retentive of water, and an excess of water is death to the winter wheat. After drainage of a heavy clay soil a few hundred bushels of sand per acre completes the work of improvement, and such a soil can be made always to yield remunerative crops. A pure sand *cannot be made* a remunerative wheat soil. Clay can always be made so by the application of sand, lime, wood ashes, and barnyard manure.

Both early and late sowing have their advocates. If there were no hessian fly in the land, the last of August would be the best time to sow wheat in the northern States, but early sown wheat is liable to be destroyed by this pest. As it is, probably the best time would be about the middle of September, especially if a sharp frost occur before that time. Rich, mellow, well prepared soil may be sown later than its opposite. There is a great gain in frequent plowings and the use of a cultivator before sowing.

The selection of seed for wheat is as important as the selection of stock for breeding. Seed wheat should be sown separately, harvested separately, threshed separately, and kept separate for this especial purpose. The wheat crop can be increased from fifty to one hundred per cent. by attention to this subject. In sowing ten acres of wheat, select one acre of the best land, give it special attention, sow ashes, plaster, salt and lime mixed together upon it; add a few loads of rich compost, give it extra cultivation, sow pure wheat, and while growing go through it often and pull out all foreign stuff. It should be well ripened when cut, and not threshed with a machine nor allowed to heat in the bin.

Smut is a great enemy of the wheat crop, and the only help for it is brineing the seed. Rust is also one of the enemies the wheat grower is obliged to encounter. The cause is found in the condition of the soil, and damp, warm weather. The disease occurs to the greatest extent on soils deficient in silicates, which are needed to give stiffness and strength to the straw, abounding in vegetable and animal deposits, which give a rapid growth to the plant. Wet, warm weather sets in, the cells of the stalks burst, the juices run out, and the grain receives but little nourishment, the wheat is shrunken and nearly useless. The preventive of this disease is the application, at the time of sowing, of sand, wood ashes, or potash and lime.

The wheat point louse is sometimes abundant on all the ears of wheat in a field, sucking the juices and impoverishing the grain. The midge or red weavel, by its depredations, is the cause of the failure of the wheat crop in some sections, by causing the abortion of many of the grains in the heads attacked by it. The Hessian fly makes an attack upon particular districts. The young fall wheat attacked by these maggots withers next spring, and death is caused by the loss of its juices. The only preventive is good seed, high culture and the application of ashes and lime.—*National Agriculturist.*

From the Weekly Sun.

Treatment of Fruit Trees.

The Practical Farmer thinks it desirable, among the varieties of practice and opinion in agricultural and horticultural matters to have occasionally something settled, that a rule applicable to all situations and circumstances may be established. There seems, indeed, to be almost as much difficulty in doing so as in "settling" a fashion of ladies' bonnets or dresses. The expediency of keeping constantly stirred the soil in orchards recently planted, and to continue this for six, eight or ten years, till the trees get strong roots and able to take care of themselves, is one of those points of practice which The Farmer would have settled. To this end it quotes the following as the practice in peach orchards of two noted and successful peach growers in Delaware. Mr. Cummings says: "You may raise some crops on the vacant land till the trees and plants begin to yield their fruits, but after that the land ought not to be taxed with anything other than the intended crops. The trees, etc., should be manured and limed to keep them in heart, and the ground cultivated like a garden, that no weeds or grass may interfere with the orchard. I plow my orchard, harrow and cultivate—the latter process three or four times every summer, when I lay it by."

Mr. Fennimore says: "My long experience has taught me that all vegetables, from the very smallest to the greatest, small fruit and fruit trees, require the very best and constant cultivation in due season; not to suffer small grain, and particularly white clover, to grow around the roots. As the trees come into bearing, it is very necessary that some stimulating manures should be applied. Leached ashes are probably the best fertilizer you can get—150 bushels to the acre; the next best is well composted manure. In all cases plow shallow, the feeding roots are all searching for moisture and the best soil. Therefore, as the roots work for the surface, where the manure is, if you plow deep you destroy the feeding power."

Hale's Early Peach.

A correspondent of the Farmer and Planter, Richmond, says "Hale's Early peach is a perfect failure in all tide water. One gentleman with 500 bearing trees laden with fruit only gathered five boxes, and they rotted in twenty-four hours—could not even get them to the New York steamer at Norfolk. All the peaches shipped by me and sundry of my neighbors to New York, marked on the return sales 000—fortunately we sent them with apples, which paid the expenses." A discussion of the qualities of this peach took place at the July meeting of the "Potomac Fruit Growers' Association." Col. Chamberlain said his peaches rotted badly this year—Troth's Early and the Early York not so badly as the Hale's Early. Judge Gray's Early Hale had not rotted so badly this year. Friend Gillingham thought the principal cause of the rot with Dr Howland's Early Hale was that most of his orchard was in a sort of basin, and much of the land rather stiff and rich. Opinions were expressed that a light warm soil, in a high and dry location was best for this fruit, and "after careful debate Hale's Early was voted the best peach for this region, so far as now known." The "Plowden" peach was also specially submitted to the consideration of the meeting as claiming to be the earliest of all known varieties, but it seemed to be generally thought to be identical with Hale's Early. If so valuable a peach as Hale's Early rots under ordinary circumstances, it will be still more valuable to those whose soil, climate and location may suit it, as seems to be the case about Washington, if we judge by the opinion of the Association of Fruit Growers.

A Hard Question.

Kitty sat perched upon a piano-stool, practicing a five finger exercise. One—two—three—four—no, how I hate this! —one—two—three—no, that is wrong. Oh, dear! what is the use?"

Pit-a-pat, pit-a-pat, little Lilly came softly down the stairs, and peeped in at the parlor door. "Kitty, mamma gone out."

"As if I don't know it," said Kitty impatiently. "What do you want to come down here bothering me for?"

"I tired being 'lone," lisped Lilly; and she came up to Kitty and leaned against her.

"Go away," cried Kitty. "I'll tell mamma of you. If I miss my lesson I'll blame it all to you. Then she fixed her eyes on the notes and began to count again. Lilly drew a long breath. For some time she stood watching her sister, but as Kitty took no notice of her, by and by Lillie stepped up to the center table, got a book, and sat down in a corner to make believe read.

"There was once a man and he had a dog—no, two dogs; and one was named Oddy, and the other was named Jippy—and Jippy was the nicest. And one day there came an old lady along, and she had matches to sell; and she wore a black dress; and her husband had been killed in the war. And so she had no one to take care of her, poor old lady! And Oddy, the bad dog, barked at her and made her afraid; but Jippy—

Kere Kitty turned around, looking very cross. "You make me get it all wrong," she said. "Now you go right up stairs this minute—this—very—minute."

"I didn't speak loud," lisped Lilly, ready to cry. "I whispered it all to myself."

"I don't care," said Kitty; "you make a noise if you do whisper. Go up stairs I say."

Just then the bell rang. "It is mammy," said Lilly; and she rushed out into the hall—but it wasn't mamma—it was only prim Mrs. Juke who never had candy in her pocket.

"Do take off your things," said Kitty. "I'm so glad you've come. Mamma is out, but I think she will be in soon—very soon. She will be so sorry to miss seeing you."

"Well, I will wait awhile," said Mrs. Juke. "I thought I heard you practicing. Don't let me disturb you. Go right on."

"O, I've plenty of time to learn my exercise," said Kitty. "My teacher does not come until to-morrow afternoon."

Mrs. Juke waited about half an hour, and then said she must go. Kitty saw her to the front door with many polite words, and then she came back into the parlor.

"Now do see if you can be quiet," said Kitty, seating herself at the piano again. "I've lost time enough." And she began to practice.

Lilly soon went up to the nursery. She took her doll out of the cradle and set it up on a chair. "Lady Jane," said she, "I hope you have had a nice nap. Kitty has been cross to me; she wasn't cross to Mrs Juke. Mrs. Juke isn't her sister, and I don't believe Mrs. Juke loves Kitty much. But I love Kitty ever so much, don't I Lady Jane?" Lilly stopped a minute, for there were tears rolling down her cheeks. But pretty soon she smiled through them, and went on: "And I know Kitty likes me oceans better than she likes Mrs. Juke. But then, Lady Jane, why don't she speak nice and soft to me, like she does to other people?"

Lady Jane sat bolt upright, and answered not a word. Perhaps the question was too hard for her. What answer would you have given?—*Hearth and Home.*

☞ Mrs. Cady Stanton says: "It is strange that material things should be perverse when one is in a hurry; but in such emergencies breastpins invariably hide, cuff pins fall under the bed, buttons fall off by their own weight, the fan is caught in the net, and the new kid gloves split down the back. At such times my faith is strong in the devil."

☞ A man who married a buxom Irish girl, greatly to the horror of his mother and sister, made the following defense: "If I married an American girl I must have an Irish girl to take care of her, and I cannot afford to support both of them."

☞ A poor, emaciated Irishman, having called in a physician in a forlorn hope, the latter spread a large mustard-plaster and put it on the poor fellow's lean chest. Pat, when he, with tearful eyes, looked down on it, said: Docthor, it strikes me it's a dale of mustard for so little mate.

Selected Poetry.

From the Marlboro' Gazette.

THE LASSIE O' THE GREEN.

A BALLAD.

BY DR. E. L. CURRIE, OF VA.

The old man went a wooing,
He had sixty winters seen,
Yet he ardently was sueing
For the Lassie o' the Green.
Now the maiden's Cot was lowly,
But the old man's Castle high,
Had braved the blasts of centuries,
Beneath a stormy sky.

The old man's cheek was ruddy,
Tho' his hair was silver grey,
And with active step he sought the cot,
As punctual as the day.
And he wooed the gentle maiden,
With soft and winning tone,
And he told her oft, how sad his lot
Was to be all alone.

He told her of his youthful days,
And of his lovely bride,
When life was all before him,
And he moved in manhood's pride—
He told her how, his partner dear,
Had left him lone and sad,
And his children all were far away,
All save one gentle lad.

He told her that his youthful son,
Scarce twenty years had known,
And still he viewed him as a boy,
So swift the time had flown;
And that he was reserved and meek,
And often seemed cast down,
And oft would start, and tremble, when
He saw his father frown.

He told her he was lonely,
Within his castle walls,
And that he longed to win her smiles,
To light his dreary halls;
He told her that his love for her,
Would constant be and sure;
But when he urged her to be his,
She firmly answered, no.

Deep was the blush that overspread,
Her face so pale before;
He urged his suit, she bent her head,
And only answered—no.
He tried to tempt her with the pride
Of rank and glittering show,
And pressed her hard to be his bride,
But still she answered—no.

The old man sought his castle gate,
Oppressed with grief and woe,
And there the warders ranged in state,
Bowed down to him full low;
The menials all his steps attend,
They were not heard nor seen,
His poor old heart was breaking for
The Lassie o' the Green.

The old man called his youthful son—
They said the boy had strayed
Down by the brook, or in the field,
Or thro' the woodland glade;
The castle all was lonely,
And his soul was very drear,
The scalding tears ran down his face,
All for the lassie dear.

The old man thought that once again
His fortune he would try—
He soon crossed o'er the oft trod plain,
And stood the Cottage by;
Unwonted sounds he hears within
The dwelling small and poor,
And start'ling words assail his ears,
Thro' the thin wicket door.

He heard a voice sweet and low,
A tale of love disclose,
While heavy sighs, and trembling sobs,
Responsive to it rose.
The old man op'ed the wicket door,
And saw his gentle son;
The maiden in his arms was clasped,
For he her heart had won.

The gentle pair approached and knelt,
And raised their loving eyes,
The old man sternly gazed on them,
With anger and surprise;
A frown was on his haughty brow,
As he beheld the pair,
His looks were like a gathering cloud,
And theirs like morning fair.

A moment there he sternly stared,
But long he could not brook
Those gentle, upturned, loving eyes,
That supplicating look—
Then fast the tears coursed down his face,
Fast as a summer shower,
And his heart with gentle pity melts,
Within that lowly bower.

He raised the pair, and pressed them both,
Fast to his throbbing breast,
And never in his life before
Had he been half so blest—
And now the Castle's lady bright,
So fair in face and mien,
Is she who loved the youthful knight—
The Lassie o' the Green.

Kiss My Wife or Fight.

There are few married men who are not averse to seeing their wives kissed; but a correspondent relates the particulars of a case in which a newly-wedded Benedict felt himself insulted because his wife was not kissed. The bridegroom in question was a stalwart young rustic, who was known as a formiadable operator in a free fight. His wife was a blooming and beautiful country girl, only sixteen years of age, and the twain were at a party where a number of young folks of both sexes were enjoying themselves in the good old-fashioned style. Every girl in the room was called out and kissed, except R., the beautiful young bride aforesaid; and, although there was not a youngster who was not dying to taste her lips, they were restrained by the presence of her herculean husband, who stood regarding the party with a look of sullen dissatisfaction. They mistook the cause, for suddenly he expressed himself.

Rolling up his sleeves, he stepped into the middle of the room, and in a tone of voice that secured marked attention, said:

"Gentlemen, I have been noticing how things have been working here for some time, and I ain't satisfied. I don't want to raise a fuss, but——

"What's the matter, John?" inquired a dozen voices. "Have we done anything to hurt your feelings?"

"Yes, you have. Here's every girl in the room has been kissed nigh a dozen times apiece, and there's my wife, who's as good as any of 'em hasn't had a single kiss, and now I just tell you, if she don't get as many kisses the rest of the night as any other girl, the man that slights her has got me to fight—that's all. Go ahead with your plays, boys."

☞ A Norfolk lady has a copy of the Bible which was printed in 1612.

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August 5 1871—y

The Sun.

CHARLES A. DANA, Editor.

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Call and examine my stock of Tinware, Stoves, Hardware, Woodware, Japanned Ware, Stone Ware, &c., &c., received direct from Importers and Manufacturers, and for sale at SMALL PROFITS.

HARDWARE.

Two, three, and four prong forks, shovels, spades, hoes, rakes, post spades, grain scoops, bramble scythes, briar hooks, trace chains, breast, back and halter chains, brass and iron chain by the yard, carriage, plow and tire bolts by the hundred or dozen, from 15 to 100 cts. per dozen, barrel bolts; tower nicked, flush and cutter bolts, tip and cross cut saws, pruning, meat, back, compass, keyhole, web and wood saws of Diston, Spear, Jackson, and Brown's manufacture; hinge nails, cut, wrought, finishing, clout, fence, and galvanized nails, by the pound or keg; horse shoe nails, tacks, galvanized tacks, carriage tacks, pump & carpet tacks, curry combs, sad irons, augurs, post augurs, Corps, Pugh and Bright lip augur bits, wood and iron braces, iron and steel squares, try squares, rules, gauges, framing and firmer chisels, gouges, levels, compasses, compass dividers, hooks and staples, staples, brass screw rings, hand-rail screws, screws from ½ inch to 8 inches; screw drivers, smoothing, jack and fore planes, plane bits, one and two foot rules; tin, iron and plated tea and table spoons; a large assortment of knives and forks, carvers, ivory handle tea and table knives; strap and T hinges, hooks and hinges, Mayer's, Tull & Porter, and Seymor window blind butts, table, parliament and brass hinges, acorn butts, knob locks, plate, pad, rim, dead, trunk, till, wardrobe, chest, drawer, and jail pad locks, hat and coat hooks, thumb latches, door latches, barn door latches, brass and lead spickets, molasses gates, coal oil spickets, tap borers, mill saw, bastard, round, half-round, taper and saw files, horse rasps, monkey wrenches, carpenters' and shoe pincers, round and flat nippers, bed and plate castors, door bells, farm bells, frame and axle pulleys, drawer pulls, shutter and blind fasteners, turn buckles, gimlets, window springs, hooks and eyes, closet latches, sash fasteners, wad cutters, gun worms, heads tubes and caps, brass and iron buttons, pad, cabinet and door locks, keys, taper files, chest handles, door stops, harness awls and needles, cow bells, collar nails, axle clips, tea scales, brick plasterers and garden trowels, hatchets, hammers, post axes, hand and bread axes; a large assortment of scissors, razors, brushes, strap with bone harness hooks, porcelain-head picture nails, copper rivets and burs, punches, porcelain shutter knobs, glue kettles, stew pans, tobacco cutters, pruning knives and shears, saw sets, wagon and cart boxes, &c., &c., &c.

WOOD WARE.

Tubs, buckets, churns, wood bowls, wash boards, well buckets, sugar and coffee boxes, brooms, baskets, potato mashers, rolling pins, butter prints and paddles, lemon squeezers, safes, dust, scrub, horse, wall, paint & white wash brushes, fork, spade, broom, shovel, awl, saw, chisel, plane, augur, hatchet and ax handles, &c., &c.

J. K. ALDRIDGE.

Chestertown, April 1, 1871.

Attention

THE most elegant mode of *perfuming* clothing is by placing them in contact with odoriferous substances. This end can be attained by purchasing at the Drug Store of T. W. WICKES the most popular and prevailing perfumes now used. You can also find at his store a most elegant assortment of Combs, Brushes, Soaps, and Fancy Articles, ad of the finest quality, and at city retail prices. The Bachelor Hair Dye, which is used so extensively in Europe and this country, and which has been satisfactorily proven by men of science and taste to be the best Hair Dye in the world, is sold by T. W. Wickes. Natural Mineral Waters for the debilitated, such as Vichy, Kissengen, Saratoga, and other waters. Spices, Ginger, Cloves, Cinnamon, Allspice, Mustard, Mace, Black and Red Pepper, Nutmegs, and *ground* Sage. Extracts for flavoring, of all varieties. Fine Cigars and Chewing and Smoking Tobacco. Jan. 7. 1871.

NOTICE.

Cut this out and keep it for Reference.

WHEN YOU VISIT THE CITY GO TO

W. H. RINGGOLD'S,

95 N. Charles Street,

AND BUY ALL YOUR

UNDER SHIRTS AND DRAWERS,
HOSIERY AND GLOVES,
NOTIONS AND FANCY GOODS.

He can sell them

Cheaper than any one!

And you can

Pay your expenses in your purchases!

☞ DON'T FAIL TO GO: HE HAS THE VERY ARTICLE YOU WANT.

Do not forget the Number!

W. H. RINGGOLD,

95 N. Charles st., 3 doors South of Mulberry, Baltimore, Sept. 24, 1870.

A CARD.

GEORGE VICKERS and H. W. VICKERS have united under the title of *GEORGE VICKERS & SON,* for the practice of the Law in Kent and Queen Anne's Counties.

Chestertown, July 1, 1871—3m.

H. McCoy. *Wm. I. Rasin.*

McCOY & RASIN,

General Commission Merchants,

No. 73 South Street,

OPPOSITE CORN EXCHANGE,

BALTIMORE.

Tendering our thanks to the citizens of Kent, for the liberal patronage extended to us in the past, we ask for a continuance.

Feb. 13, 1870— Y.

FOR SALE OR RENT.



The subscriber, as agent for Miss Sarah A. Greenwood, offers for sale the HOUSE AND LOT on High street, in Chestertown, adjoining the Titter property, and two doors from the Dwelling of the late Mrs. Mary Voss. The house is a substantial one-story Frame, 16 by 32 feet, with attic, two good-sized rooms on each floor, with a large garden in the rear, entered by a 4-foot alley from High street.

If not sold at an early day will be rented for the remainder of the present year, or for 1872.

Possession given at once. Apply to

E. F. PERKINS,

Sept. 9, 1871. Chestertown, Md.

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