



A Prairie Plowman at Work.

### The Plowman

Clear the brown path to meet his  
coulters' gleam,  
Lo! on he comes, behind his smoking  
team,  
With toil's bright dewdrops on his  
sunburnt brow,  
The lord of earth, the hero of the  
plow!

First in the field before the reddening  
sun,  
Last in the shadows when the day is  
done,  
Line after line, along the bursting  
sod,  
Marks the broad acres where his feet  
have trod.

Still where he treads the stubborn  
clods divide,  
The smooth, fresh furrow opens deep  
and wide;

Matter and dense the tangled turf  
upheaves,  
Mellow and dark the ridgy cornfield  
cleaves;

Up the steep hillside, where the labor-  
ing train  
Slants the long track that scores the  
level plain

Through the moist valley, clogged  
with oozing clay.

The patient convoy breaks its destin-  
ed way;

At every turn the loosening chains  
resound,  
The swinging plowshare circles glis-  
tering round

Till the wide field one billowy waste  
appears,  
And weary hands unbend the panting  
steers.

—Oliver Wendell Holmes.

### Plowing

In order to plow land and not leave a high ridge one should plow straight as a line the first furrow the full depth and in coming back run the cutter exactly where it went the first time. Throw as big a furrow as you can opposite the first, just as wide as possible—the wider the better. Then give your clevis more land and keep the right hand a little the highest, just so you don't plow too wide, but the full depth. Much of the loose soil falls back into the furrow. Coming back hold the plow in the same position. Take a moderate furrow, but just as deep and lay it even with the other. These two furrows make your first round. Now you start on your third and fourth furrows on the second round. Alter your clevis, giv-

ing it but little land, so you cannot cut a full furrow without holding your left hand the highest. As this round is where the mistake is made be very careful to lay it even with the first two furrows. Then go your third round, but fix your clevis first just right for a full furrow, and if you have started straight keep on doing so all the time. When I see a man start a straight furrow and then get as crooked as a dog's hind leg, I know that man is not doing his best, has no pride in his work, and cannot or don't drive his team straight. You will say that we all use riding plows. In that case plow the first furrow and then let your middle horse walk in it coming back and shift your clevis if it needs it, but I don't think it will. However, see that it is all right for closing in the first round and see that it is just right for the next round or you may make the old mistake. See that the horses pull good and true or you will soon make crooks. Our land is plowed just little for good farming.—Wm. Oxley.

### Cleaning the Plow

Neglect to thoroughly clean plows and other implements is a common failing in many instances. It always pays in the end to devote a liberal attention to this operation, as not only does proper cleaning prolong the life of the machine, but it also renders its working much easier, not only to the horses but to the plowman. The following plan for cleaning the plow, which will also work well on other tools of iron or steel is recommended: Slowly add one pint of sulphuric acid to one quart of water, handling it carefully and stirring slowly, as considerable heat will result from the mixture. When it is cool moisten the surface of the metal with this, and then rub dry, after which wash off with pure water. This application should clean any surface not too badly rusted, but if the tool has been long neglected it may require more than one application. After cleaning a thorough coating of grease is given before putting the tool away, and when taken out to use give another greasing and it will go easier.

"It's wrong of me to take this food," said the tramp, as he reached out for the pie in the window, "but," he added, reflectively, "I've had repeated inquiries for it from the department of the interior, and I shall now deliver the goods."

### Early Fall Plowing

Editor THE FARMING WORLD:

While driving from south to north of the County of Grey, via Cedarville, Priceville, Markdale, Walters Falls, Woodford and to Georgian Bay, the last week of September it was quite noticeable that very little plowing was done. I will venture to give two reasons: (1) Because it has been very dry and hot, the land being pretty hard; (2) a great many farmers do not believe in plowing too early, perhaps the 15th of September is early enough. I have been asked many a time when plowing if I did not think it too early to plow for crop. I would answer in the negative, as I believe in early plowing. When done early with the land dry and warm there is a better chance of destroying weeds. Grass and weeds turned down when the ground is warm heats and kills the grass and starts seeds to germinate for the frosts of early winter to destroy. Some may object because grass will grow up between furrows. A stroke of harrow or cultivator stops it, and the heating process is still going on below, and more seeds are brought near the surface to sprout.

When left till late in the fall the ground gets wet and cold and the plow turns it over and the furrows run and pack together, and remain in that state till spring. Then, when cultivating is started, seeds sprout, thistles spring up after seed is sown, and it is a battle for victory between weeds and grain, with the result that a lot of extra binder twine is required, more threshing to be paid for and more labor all round. And a large pile of small seeds under the thresher, to pay the bill. I never do any second plowing, but start in soon as possible after harvest, and I think I live as clean a farm as is in this locality. If necessary, we do some harrowing or cultivating.

Wishing you every success with your splendid farm journal and thanking you for space I remain,

Yours truly,

J. B. PAUL.

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### A Fall Sown Lawn

A fall sown lawn has a much better chance of succeeding than one sown in the spring. Lime is a very good fertilizer for grass. The reason that there is a blue grass region in Kentucky is because it is also a limestone region. The best method of procuring lime for use on the lawn is to purchase from a local dealer in the spring a sufficient quantity of new lime. This should be placed in tin cans or other kind of barrels which should be only half filled or partly full some boxes. As the lime absorbs moisture from the air it will help to keep the cellar dry during the summer, and by fall the lime will become thoroughly slacked. Apply this air-slacked lime to the lawn, any time after the ground has frozen, at the rate of one bushel to each thousand square feet of lawn, or at the rate of forty bushels to the acre. Lime sweetens soil, and if it is applied each year will rid the lawn of many plants that thrive in sour soil, such as moss and sorrel. It is not advisable to use any kind of dressings with any kind of stable manure, they all contain weed seeds. Bone meal is just as cheap and more lasting in effect.—W. R. S., in Garden Magazine.

"Casey do be a great fighter."  
"He is thot. Yisterday he walked tin moiles to lick a mon."

"An' did he walk back, too?"

"No; he was carried back."