

years old, between my garden and front lot, and the most public street in this county, through which thousands of mules and wild Missouri steers, hogs, sheep, &c., are driven every year, and all the stock of this village, of all sorts, runs at large. (And PHARAOH of old knew what a starved cow was.) In this hedge is a small wicker gate, opening into the street, with an Osage crab over it to prevent climbing. When necessary this gate is kept locked. In this lot, which is within the corporation limits, and contains some four acres, we have had through the season the greatest abundance of strawberries, gooseberries, currants, peaches, pears of the finest varieties, grapes, raspberries, plums, cherries, blackberries, melons, &c., and if any person has been inside of the lot without leave, it is certain they did not get over the hedge; or if any boy has taken a plum or berry we do not know it.

The accompanying cut is a representation of the hedge fence on Sugar Grove Farm owned by Mr. JAMES MCGREW, near Dayton, Ohio.

MILLET AND ITS CULTURE

MR. EDITOR:—Of the millet there are three distinct genera: the *Polish* millet, the *Indian* millet, and the *common* millet.

Of the *common* millet there are three species: the *German*, the *common* or *cultivated*, and the *Italian*.

The *German* millet grows with a reed-like stalk, from two and a-half to three feet high, with a leaf at each joint about one and a-half feet long, and about one inch broad at the base, ending in a sharp point, rough to the touch, surrounding the stalk at the base, and turning down about half the length. The stalks terminate by compact spikes about three-fourths of an inch in diameter at the bottom, tapering to the top, six or eight inches long, and closely set with small roundish grain. It is an annual, and soon perishes after it has ripened its seeds. Of this kind of millet there are three varieties, the *white*, *yellow*, and *purple* grained.

The *Italian* millet rises also with a reed-like stalk four feet high; the stalk is thicker and the leaf broader than the preceding; the spikes are from eight to twelve inches in length; they are not compact but are composed of several roundish clustered spikes. There are also two or three varieties of this, distinguished only by the color of the seeds.

The above described species of the *common* millet being the only kinds cultivated in this section, I shall omit giving a description of the other kinds, and proceed at once to give my readers the benefit of my practical knowledge in reference to its culture.

In consequence of my meadows being destroyed by the severity of the winter of 1854, I was of neces-

sity compelled to substitute something for the hay crop, and finally decided upon millet. I found it very difficult to procure seed, but much more difficult to procure reliable information with regard to its culture; consequently, my first year's experience was in reality a year of experiment.

The field upon which I sowed my millet was a wheat stubble. The soil sandy loam, the higher portions of the field being quite sandy, and in a medium state of cultivation; the surface undulating. During the latter part of May it was plowed ten inches deep, with a Polly plow, No 2, which is one of the best stubble plows in use. The first week in June the ground was harrowed twice, lengthwise of the furrow, with a heavy double scratch harrow. The millet seed was sown immediately, at the rate of 12 quarts per acre, and followed with a light seed harrow and roller. I commenced cutting my millet the middle of August with a common grain cradle; let it lie in the swath one to two days, according to the temperature of the weather; bound in sheaves and shocked up the same as wheat. Judging from the number and size of the loads, the yield was two tons per acre. Had the season been favorable the produce would have been one-third more.

From my limited experience I have come to the conclusion that millet is peculiarly adapted to light, warm soils, but will grow on almost any soil which is not too wet; that the soil should be plowed deep and well pulverized; that the time to sow the seed, if intended for hay, is any time during the month of June—if intended to ripen, the last week in May; that the quantity of seed if intended for hay should vary from 16 to 20 quarts—very rich soils requiring most seed to prevent the stalks from growing too rank—but, if intended to ripen, 8 to 10 quarts per acre will be quite sufficient; that the proper time to harvest, if for hay, is when the grain is just filled and the top of the head or spike is beginning to turn yellow, but if intended for seed it should fully ripen; that the best mode of harvesting is to cut with the cradle or reaper and bind into sheaves when sufficiently dry; and that the yield per acre on good soils well cultivated, will be from 3 to 4 tons of hay or 30 to 40 bushels of seed. It leaves the soil in a loose, friable state, consequently grass and clover seeds do well when sown with it.

As to its nutritious qualities, it is a regular panacea for the craving of all hungry stomachs, whether of biped or quadruped. Horses will work hard and keep in fine condition by being fed on green millet, finely cut with a straw-cutter and mixed with four