

must be attended with bad consequences in the vegetable, as well as in the animal. One thing is pretty clear, nature never intended that the tree should be enveloped in such a coating, and the less we deviate from her provisions and intentions the greater will be our success. If we can destroy the insects and remove the moss, without leaving something in their place nearly, if not quite as injurious, it will be wise to do so. We take the following from the *Maine Farmer*:

The practice of washing, or rather we should say coating trees with whitewash, so prevalent some five years since in most sections of this State, appears now but to have few supporters. Instead of lime wash, most cultivators of fruit use a wash made of common wood ashes or of potash, which they apply in rather a dilute state, with cloths instead of brushes, and which has a tendency to remove moss, give a lively and healthy appearance and character to the cuticle, and to destroy the small animalcule that adheres to the outside covering of leaves in May and June. Whitewash, as it has a tendency to obstruct and fill the pores of the bark, is an application rarely attended with benefit; it may remove moss and expel insects, but the bad consequences inseparable from its mechanical action on the system, far more than counterbalance all the good effects it is likely to produce. A tree that has become coated with moss can in no way be more speedily and effectually renovated than by a careful removal of the adhering fungus, and the application of soap-suds. Trimming at the proper season, and judicious manuring in conjunction with the above appliance, rarely fail in effecting the result desired.

THE CANADIAN AGRICULTURAL SOCIETY AND AGRICULTURAL COLLEGE.

By yesterday's mail, we received intelligence apprising us of the foundation of a great General Agricultural Society for Canada East, somewhat similar in its composition to that recently established in this section of the Province, under the name of the Provincial Agricultural Association. The formation of the Society for Canada East was determined on at a meeting held at Montreal, on the 3rd instant. The name chosen is that of "The Canadian Agricultural Society." This Society is to interfere in no way with the Country Societies, but is intended to act as an auxiliary in the great work of Agricultural improvement. Those members who subscribe by the year are to pay the trifling sum of five shillings annually, and persons who subscribe two pounds ten shillings, or upwards, will be constituted members for life. The Society is to be governed by a President, six Vice-Presidents, twenty-four Directors, and a Secretary and Treasurer; and in order to afford the District of Quebec an opportunity of co-operating with the Society, they will be entitled to appoint six of the Directors, and, next year, two of the Vice-Presidents. The Society is to meet annually, in the month of March, for the election of Officers and Directors, and to take into consideration such other matters as may be submitted to them; and, if necessary, a general meeting may at any time be called on the requisition of the President and a majority of the Vice-Presidents, made to the Secretary. The Directors are to hold quarterly meetings, and oftener, if necessary; and at all meetings of the Society the President, or one of the Vice-Presidents, to preside. At the Quarterly Meetings the presence of the President or one of the Vice-Presidents, and one-fourth of the Board of Directors, will be required to form a quorum, for the transaction of business. The objects of the Society will be directed to the diffusion of useful knowledge connected with Agriculture, to encourage the cultivation of new plants, and to promote general improvement in the system of farming. Draining, manuring, cropping, the raising of stock, the management of the dairy, and every other branch of rural economy will be included. An endeavour will be made to procure the establishment of an Agricultural College, similar to that established at Cirencester, in England, for the instruction of youth in the science and art of

Agriculture, and the expense to be paid from the products of a model farm, which is to be attached to the College. There is also to be an Agricultural Museum, and one or more Agricultural Libraries. Clergymen, of all denominations, will be requested to become honorary members, to aid in the collection and circulation of statistical and other useful information relating to Agriculture. The Municipal Councillors and School Commissioners will also be invited to use their endeavours to promote the interests of the Society. The Society is to go into immediate operation, before the meeting of Parliament. Mr. Evans, who has so long used his best endeavours to promote the interests of Agriculture in Lower Canada, is taking an active part in the establishment of the Canadian Agricultural Society.

We are somewhat agreeably surprised at the bold step taken by the Agriculturists of Lower Canada, who have long been reproached for their adherence to a wretched and exhausting system of cultivation. Now they really threaten to go ahead of Canada West; to outstrip us in the race of improved and enlarged productions, and to pluck the laurel from our brow, while with a hearty huzza they proclaim the peaceful conquest. Not enviously should we look upon their exertions. Now that emulation has been excited, there is some hope that vigour of mind will be brought to bear upon our system of Agriculture; that reason will no longer think it beneath her dignity, to investigate the productions of nature; to examine the causes of the failure of the crops, and to seek out suitable remedies. Of the good effects that may flow from the establishment of the Agricultural College, we are certainly sanguine. There the Canadian Youth may acquire that knowledge which will enable him to investigate and trace the causes of the difficulties with which as a practical farmer he will have to contend. He will then be enabled to pursue his avocation upon principles purely scientific—to trace the effect up to the cause. True, all cannot directly enjoy the advantages which the Agricultural College will afford; but the knowledge acquired by those who will attend, will be sent abroad and become common property, by which means all may, more or less, reap the advantage.

But Upper Canada should not allow herself to be left behind by Lower Canada. The whole arrangement connected with the College, if we are to have one, should be judiciously made; and the model farm should be under the management of persons of extensive scientific acquirements; for if controuled by persons of ordinary intelligence, no good result would be obtained by its establishment.

BLIND STAGGERS.

The above is the popular name for a disease, often serious in its consequences, to which horses are sometimes subject. We take the following remarks upon it from a "Manual of Veterinary Medicine," by M. Lebeaud, a French writer of considerable merit. His work is published in *L'Encyclopedia des Sciences et des Arts*, and is now being translated into English, for the *Maine Farmer*. We shall occasionally borrow from the translation of our Cotemporary such passages as appear valuable:—

DIZZINESS.

A sort of delirium, sometimes quiet, sometimes furious, caused by an inflammatory state of the brain. There are two species of this disease—the one symptomatic of some other complaint, and the other primary. In the latter there is direct injury of the brain, either by a collection of blood or serum fluid within the skull—by inflammation of the membranes or by enlargement of the vessels of the brain itself, caused by the heat of the sun or some local injury; in the symptomatic affection, the brain is disturbed by fever, or obstruction of the bowels, or some other general disease. The horse, attacked by this disease, is dull and heavy; hangs his head to the ground; he leans against whatever is near him, as if to keep from falling; hangs back, and drags upon his halter, and keeps constantly in motion; his eyes roll in his head; he staggers in his walk; his legs

tremble; he throws himself violently on the ground, and in his struggles often bruises his head badly.

Such a case requires prompt treatment; particularly large bleedings, and cooling drinks and lavements. If the stomach be overloaded with indigestible food, the first thing to be done will be to give cathartics and lavements enough to empty them thoroughly. After these preliminaries, a large rowel should be inserted in the breast. The horse should be tied in such a way that he cannot hurt himself in his struggles: for this purpose small bundles of straw should be fastened to the different parts of the stall against which he might be bruised or otherwise injured.

CULTIVATION OF WHEAT.

The Editor of the *Albany Cultivator*, writing on the defects of the present mode of wheat culture observes, that in the oldest districts of the United States, where cultivation was commenced a little more than 200 years ago, the soil is exhausted, and the culture of wheat has had to be abandoned. His remarks on the subject, cannot, at this season, fail to be interesting to the farmers of this country:—

A writer in the *Farmer's Magazine* observes, "though wheat thrives in a stiff soil, it may be too hard; though it will grow in a loose sand, it is easily thrown out; though it thrives in a hot summer, it may be burnt up for want of moisture; and though wet is injurious to it, it requires, at certain seasons, considerable moisture. It requires a medium soil, condition and climate. If the soil be too poor, it is short and sickly; if it be too rich, it lodges or mildews; and no plant requires the watchful eye of the cultivator more carefully or more assiduously."

It was formerly thought that wheat could only be grown on strong retentive soils, but it is now successfully cultivated on nearly all light soils as well as strong. In speaking of England, he says the "four-course," or alternating system of farming, "established the fact, that while the clover root was a better bed for wheat than a fallow, the sheep's treadings and droppings were a much better dressing than lime or barn-yard manure; and blowing sand could, in 8, or even 4 years, be adapted to the raising of as much wheat as the naked, open, laborious fallow, that on the former there was a stock of sheep to sell, and no labor beyond the ploughing and sowing."

In this country, no better preparation can be had for a wheat crop, than a clover-ley depastured by sheep. The action of clover on sandy soils, is to render them more compact.

He cites the analysis of Sprengel, by which it appears that the principal ingredient in wheat of a fixed character, is phosphorus, and observes—"when it is known how much of that material is drained from the soil, year after year, and sold off the farm, it is not surprising that we hear farmers complain of 'spent soil!'"

The most suitable manure for wheat, he believes to be bones, and the dropping of sheep while feeding on the land; and where this course has been adopted, he says good farmers in all parts of the kingdom came to the conclusion that no soil is too light to grow thriving crops of wheat, if it only be properly tilled. "In the bones, the necessary phosphorus is supplied, and the urine and dung of the sheep supply the other constituents necessary for perfecting the plant in straw or grain. Many examples might be given of the successful application of bone manure to wheat."

Bones are prepared for use as manure, either by being crushed in mills, designed for the purpose, or by being dissolved in sulphuric acid. The latter method is generally adopted in England. The bones are placed in a conical heap on a bed of ashes, and the acid slowly poured on. Twelve lbs. of acid per bushel, is the quantity applied; being diluted with once or twice its bulk of water. The bones will absorb nearly the whole of the acid; the outside of the heap should then be turned inside, and the whole will, in a short time, become soft and fit to mix with ashes for drilling or sowing.

They are sometimes applied in a liquid state, and are also used alone as a top dressing. The quantity applied per acre is from 16 to 25 bushels.

The writer has no confidence in "dibbling and thin sowing."

He speaks in favour of drilling, of which he thus speaks:—

"The drill is the sheet-anchor of wheat sowing. The seed is deposited with the accuracy of clock-work; the quantity can be regulated to a fraction—a peck per acre; the rows are straight, and parallel; the depth can be adjusted to a trifle; and the whole apparatus be adapted to the varied circumstances

of the case with the loosening of a screw, or the turning of a handle." These drills are so perfect, that in sowing "a 20 acre field, with smooth surface, scarcely a variation of an inch from a straight line occurs in the whole piece."

As a protection against smut and vermin, the writer recommends arsenic. We have formerly used this substance as a preventive of smut, but cannot say that we found it more effective than blue vitriol or sulphate of copper: either will answer the purpose well, if properly used. But for protecting the seed against insects and vermin, we think it probable the arsenic would be preferable.

"Take to every bushel of grain one oz. of arsenic, dissolve it in a pint of water, adding half a lb. of salt. Spread the corn on a level floor, and pour the liquor on, stirring it until the whole is thoroughly damped. Then mix quicklime until it is sufficiently dry to sow, and we will guarantee that not an ear of smut will be visible. The seed is also secure from crows and vermin."

The average yield of wheat per acre, on a clover-ley, under good management, is put down at 30 bushels: and the expense of cultivation as follows:—

	£	s.	d.
Plowing.....	0	6	0
Sowing.....	0	3	0
Harrowing.....	0	1	0
Rolling.....	0	1	6
Weeding.....	0	4	0
Straw for harvesting and all expenses up to marketing.			

£1 13 6

This would give the cost per bushel about 26 cents. The common opinion is, that wheat is produced much cheaper in this country than it can be in England. This is questionable. Their improved modes of culture, and the greater average yield, the English farmers may have the advantage of the American on the score of cheapness; and we ought to regard this as an additional inducement for the adoption of a better system.

SPEEDY CURE FOR A FOUNDERED HORSE.

As soon as you find your horse is foundered bleed him in the neck in proportion to the greatness of the founder. In extreme cases you may bleed him so long as he can stand up. Then draw his head up as is common in drenching, and with a spoon put fur back on his tongue strong salt, until you get him to swallow one pint. Be careful not to let him drink too much. Then anoint round the edges of his hoofs with spirits of turpentine, and your horse will be well in one hour.

A founder pervades every part of the system of a horse. The phlegm arrests it from the blood, the salt arrests it from his stomach and bowels; and the spirit of turpentine arrests it from the feet and limbs.

I once rode a hired horse 99 miles in two days, returning him at night the second day; and his owner would not have known that he had been foundered if I had not told him, and his founder was one of the deepest kind.

I once, in a travel of 700 miles, foundered my horse three times, and I do not think my journey was retarded more than one day by the misfortune, having in all cases observed and practiced the above prescription. I have known a foundered horse turned in at night on green feed; in the morning he would be well, having been purged by the green feed. All founders must be attended to immediately. [S. W. Farmer.]

USEFUL RECIPES.

To MAKE "KING OIL."—Take 1 oz. green copperas, 2 oz. white vitriol, 2 oz. common salt, 2 oz. linseed oil, 8 oz. molasses, and 1 pint urine. Boil for fifteen minutes over a slow fire, and when nearly cold, add 1 oz. oil vitriol and 4 oz. spirit-turpentine—apply with a feather. This application I have tried on several severe wounds on horses, in very cold weather, with the best results. If applied early, it will keep out all cold, and cause the wound to suppurate and heal soon. (It need not be bandaged.)

LIQUID OROPHAC. For bruises and sprains on horses, and for pains and rheumatism on myself. Take 1 quart of whiskey, and dissolve in it 6 oz. castile soap, heating it over a slow fire till it is completely incorporated; then let it cool, and add 1 oz. of camphor.

I found the foregoing recipe in an agricultural paper some years ago, and having tried them effectually, can recommend them to others. If inserted in thy paper, I think some of thy subscribers may be led to say, as I have done, "this recipe has been worth more to me than the whole cost of the paper for a year." R. H. G.

Green Hill, Col. Co., O.—[Ohio Cultivator.]

INJURIOUS ACTION OF WATER UPON LEAD.—On Monday last Joseph Gower, of Shirley, was admitted to that excellent institution, the South Hants Infirmary, being lately disabled, having lost the use of both hands, owing to the water he had been in the habit of using being impregnated with lead.—[Hants Independent.]