

summer, in the stable or some tank; and if in winter, it should be heated to the proper temperature.

There is often considerable prejudice against the horse being fairly supplied with water. It is supposed to chill him, to injure his wind, or to incapacitate him for hard work. It certainly would do so if immediately after drinking his fill he were galloped hard, but not if he were suffered to quench his thirst more frequently when at rest in the stable. The horse that has free access to water, will not drink so much in the course of the day, as another who, to cool his parched mouth, swallows as fast as he can, and knows not when to stop. When on a journey, a horse may with perfect safety be more liberally supplied with water than he generally is.

CASTOR OIL.—The cultivation of the castor bean for the manufacture of oil seems to have received a new impulse at the west particularly in Illinois. One firm in St. Louis worked up 18,580 bushels of beans in four months, producing 17,750 gallons of oil; and we are told that 800 barrels have been sold at \$50 per barrel. Here is a domestic manufacture with a vengeance. But this is the work of only one establishment in four months. Health would seem to be worth some care to preserve, if it were only to avoid the pain of swallowing those 800 barrels of oil. But the greater part of those hundreds of barrels are choked down the throats of infants, who have been improperly fed till they become restless; then paregoric or some other opiate is administered to still them; if their constitutions are proof against beef and potatoes and paregoric, their digestion at least is disordered, and then comes the castor oil. The most effectual preventive of sickness among children, would be to compel those having charge of them to take the oil, when they allow them to get sick through neglect, or make them so by improper treatment.—*N. Y. State Mechanic.*

LEACHED ASHES.—The German Agriculturists connect their experiments with great accuracy thereby making them of the greatest use. The *New Genesee Farmer* translates from the German a statement of experiments by W. Albert of Ruslan from which the following facts and results are taken:

A field of dry sandy soil, which had lain in grass eight years, overrun with moss, was dressed with leached ashes at the rate of 66 bushels to the acre.

The land was first ploughed about six inches deep, turning down the sod carefully so as to close it in completely: the ashes were then hauled on and spread, and covered with a shallow furrow about two inches deep.

A measured square rod thus prepared with ashes, and a measured rod without ashes, were sowed with Buckwheat in the year 1827. The ashed land produced 53 ounces—the unashed land 29½ oz. In 1828, the same land sowed with rye, produced 77½ and 44½ oz. In 1829, oats with clover produced on the same land 81½ and 38½ oz. In 1830, the land was depastured. In 1831, it was again sowed with rye, and the ashed land gave 53, the unashed 28½ oz.

The expense and cost of application of the leached ashes at 9 cents the bu. in the field was \$9.25 to the acre.

The grain crop in 1827, was \$4.05 per acre—in 1821, 5.25—in 1829, 3.62½—in 1830, 3.00—in 1831, 4.86: making \$19.98½ in the whole.

The land worth \$15 per acre gave in 5 years a gain of \$19.69½ on an expenditure of \$9.25.

WHEAT—HESSIAN FLY.—Mr. W. H. Hill has published a short essay on Wheat in the Nashville Agriculturist, in which he says, that for fifteen years past, his Wheat has not been materially affected by the Fly, with the exception of two years. His practice has been to sow his seed wheat two days, or more, before sowing. In the two years excepted, his Wheat was not sufficiently sinned.

This fact is worth noticing by farmers. If it is a preventive, it will be invaluable to the country.

Mr. Hill also says, it is important to select the largest and best grains for seed. For that purpose he uses a wire sieve, which will let the small grains of Wheat and all the foul seeds through, and retain the large grain only.

Blaikie's Portable Threshing Machine

Worked with two, three, or four horses at pleasure.

THE SUBSCRIBER begs to intimate to the Agricultural community throughout Nova Scotia, and the adjoining Colonies, that he is prepared to receive orders for making *Threshing Machines*, either portable or stationary. He believes that he is justified in stating that his machines are equal in speed, if superior to any now in use in the Colonies, or in the United States. With two horses, his machine will thresh 25 bushels of wheat per hour, and a fourth more for every additional horse, when the machine is in fair working condition. With two horses it will thresh bushels of oats per hour, and a fourth more for every additional horse. The horses move in a circle of 25 feet in diameter, at a rate of 2½ to 3 miles per hour, and can work during the full day without fatigue. The portable machines can be removed one barn to another with ease,—are easily erected and put in operation, and are rarely subject to get out of order. From the low price at which they are made, and the rapid sale they have elsewhere, wherever they have been tried, he has reason to believe that they only require to be known to come into extensive use.

Letters addressed (post paid or free) to the manufacturer, or the editor of the *Mechanic & Farmer*, will receive every attention.

THOMAS BLAIKIE

Green Hill, West River, February 1.

CERTIFICATES.

This is to certify that in December, 1841, I purchased one Mr. Thomas Blaikie's *Stationary Threshing Machine*, and since that time by the great saving of time and labour resulting from the use of it, it has amply repaid me for the use of it. I therefore confidently recommend these machines to every farmer who may require such an article; and will venture to assure any person that if they purchase one they will never have reason to regret it, as an unprofitable investment of capital.

GEORGE McDONALD

West River, January, 1843.

Having worked for some time with one of Mr Blaikie's *Threshing Machines*, with moving horse power, would recommend it as a superior article, and are certain, that no farmer could make a better investment than to supply himself with a machine of this kind.

SAMUEL FRASER
JOHN FRASER.

New Glasgow, January 3, 1843.

I have had Messrs. Fraser's *Threshing Machine*, made by Thomas Blaikie, threshing for me two or three days, and found it to surpass my expectations. It done the work well, and clean; and I would recommend it as a very superior article, as regards saving of labour and grain.

B. L. KIRKPATRICK

New Glasgow, January 3, 1843.

Having witnessed the *Threshing Apparatus*, made by Mr. Thomas Blaikie, in full operation, I give it as my decided opinion that it far exceeds, in usefulness, and saving of labour, any other of a similar nature which has come under my observation, and it is preferable to any other kind used in the Province.

JAMES CARMICHAEL

New Glasgow, January 3, 1843.

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