

till another Log Rolled in the Road.

The Emporium plans have much to contend against before the goal is attained.—The Press is a powerful engine for good or evil. One member of the press of this city had their powers warped, perhaps in anticipation of gain, and has acted in a very low and dishonorable manner. An organ of recent date has used its inventive powers to the utmost limit, in an attempt to injure us: but now that it has had its full say it amounts to but very little. Did we deem it worth replying to, or taking our war club in hand to try to blacken a person's character, we would throw our pen away for ever, unless we could show our opponent in a thousand times darker colors than our villifier has been able to do. We may inform them that perfection is not often met with in mortal beings, and there are but few to be found that less could be said against, if any one moved by malice or envy chose to use their pen against them.

We will not follow our opponents through the filth and mire into which they have descended, feeling assured that by doing so we would only become like themselves, bespattered all over with dirt; and being also of opinion that the fewer dirty persons there are in city or country the better.

Rather Dark.

You are all aware that attempts have been made to put down Township Agricultural Exhibitions, and to centre Exhibitions in Cities. We have not favored that plan. It is of importance. You can use this paper to explain in what way Exhibitions would be most advantageous, whether to be confined to cities and towns, or held in Townships.

There is also a power raising in a part of Canada to oppose the Provincial Exhibition. Should the Provincial Exhibition be maintained or not? We put the question to our readers; let it be duly considered by them, and fairly answered, either for or against our opinion. We have been, and still are, supporters of the Provincial Exhibition.

There are some plans working to create a change in public Agricultural affairs, but whether the attempt will carry or not remains to be seen.

Farmers should organize clubs, and discuss things that are of importance to them.

Communications.

We have very frequently requested our numerous supporters to favor us with their experience, and express their opinion upon the current question of the day affecting chiefly the interests of agriculture, through our columns, and while many have done so, still a great many more have remained silent. There are few of our readers but might impart some useful information which would be of much value to others; and a general exchange of practical ideas could not fail of being productive of good. We who live in these days of enlightenment are apt to consider that the dark ages have passed entirely away, but still some heavy mists and thick clouds still remain, bedimning the sight, and preventing the spread of practical knowledge. There are readers of newspapers and seekers of information who inquire diligently at all other sources

within their reach that may be likened to money-shavers and money-peddlers, who will grasp at and retain, their twenty, thirty, and fifty per cent., and by such means acquire what they so ardently wish for, and so diligently seek after; and—more to the pity—so frequently obtain, and keep merely for their own selfish gratification—but the place in which they reside is never bettered or improved by a single dime at their cost. Society in their opinion has no claim on them, for all they gain is used only for their own little gratification. Like the horse-leech, it is "give, give," but nothing ever returns from them to do good, or alleviate or enlighten their fellow men. We say to our readers, young and all: be not like unto them, but take your pen, and impart freely some useful hints; and what practical knowledge you may have stored up in your mind, give your country the benefit of them. You will find it both pleasant and profitable to do so, as every one has something to impart as well as something to learn; and the satisfaction you will feel of even trying to do some good to others, will amply repay you for your trouble. We sincerely thank all those who have favored us with their communications for the benefit of ourselves and others; and many such have we received which have been of great utility to our readers, and through them to the country at large. We respectfully request them to go on with the good work. Whether monthly or only occasionally, they will be welcome, and find a place in our columns—and by this means they will be the instruments of spreading abroad information over the country, which will yield in due time a bountiful harvest in return. Of course we do not so much desire long letters, containing a mere series of questions, to be answered by letter or even through the paper. Although always willing to do what we can in that way, time presses upon us with more important matter. And we do not pretend to be infallible in all our own conclusions. When we are in error at any time, on any subject, we invite you to put us right, and refute what we may have asserted to be correct.

Communications.

For the Farmer's Advocate.

The Management of Manures.

BY ENGLISH PEN.

Nothing is of more importance to farmers than the making of manures, and the proper mode to apply them to the land.—A learned agriculturist once said in delivering an agricultural address at a dinner, that there were three things that constituted good farming: the first was *Manure*; the second was *Manure*; and the third was *Manure*. Farming without this, except upon new virgin land, is like a man fishing with a line, without fish hooks or bait. But the real question is, how are farmers to procure all the manure they require? They can make only a certain quantity from the stock they keep, and to buy artificial manures is expensive, to say nothing of how valueless many are; in truth many farmers content themselves with what stable manure they make on their own premises, and but little care is taken either to manage it properly or to save it.

Some farmers manage to have every spring about double the quantity of manure that others have from the same amount of stock. In the first place, the manure that is made from well-fed stock is more in bulk, and richer in ammonia, than that made from poorly fed cattle.

Then the agriculturist who manages his manures in the best manner, secures and preserves it; he does not have it in his yard, or the side of a hill, with a ditch on

the lower side, to allow the liquid to run away, nor will he leave piles of manure on the outside of his sheds; exposed all the winter to the rains and winds, blowing away and evaporating the ammonia it contains, which is the fertility itself; nor does he pile it under cover to heat and steam, and allow it thus to destroy, as all stable manures will that have not been thoroughly mixed with the straw, until the whole is fully decomposed. Horse dung will become worthless, no matter where it is placed, if exposed to rains or under cover. If a large body of it is left together it will heat to that degree as to form a dry mildew, and it is then ruined.

The good farmer who understands how to make his manures, will allow none of his heaps to become thus; he will mix his horse with his cattle dung, which should be made into as high a heap as it is possible for a man to throw it with a fork, so that its liquid when saturated with rain should not escape, he uses an abundance of straw for bedding, as that absorbs the urine of the cattle, and prevents the escape of the ammoniacal salts to a great degree. His yard should be of proper dimensions and depth to hold all the dung he makes, unless he has a manure cellar under his stable, which is a good thing if the manure is so saturated that it does not heat to mildew. In his yard he should spread the manures on the main heap, or dung-pile, once or twice a week, and it will thus be trodden upon by the stock, so that no more of its virtues are lost. Whenever by the tramping of the cattle it has become wet and miry, he lays down more straw, and in the spring he has all the manure that it is possible to have from a given number of live stock, and it is preserved in capital condition.

There are many opinions as to the best way of preserving manures, during the winter season, while in process of being made; but from many years of experience in this we feel certain that no better way can be adopted than to yard it all, as above set forth, letting the rain do the necessary saturation; while an abundance of straw, spread as often as needed, will retain as much of the fertilizing properties of it as can be done in any other manner.

Editor Farmer's Advocate.

Drainage.

Dear Sir,—The necessities of the climate of Canada call forth a few remarks on the above subject, which I am forced to urge on the attention of the farmers of this country. And on reviewing the serious losses sustained by them, from the incessant rains of the last season, and the late spring, occasioned by the long winter, together with the wetness of the ground, which precludes the possibility of ploughing and seeding at present, rendering the growing time so short, that there will be scarcely a chance for maturing the grain crops. The only way to obviate the above losses is to DRAIN, which will enable the farm operations to be proceeded with as soon as the frost is out of the ground.—Whereas, if a crop is to be got at all, the grain must be sown in very wet, cold soil, which will retard its growth, and destroy an immense quantity of seed; not only that, but should a drought set in, the land will be baked so hard that a second misfortune, as bad as excessive wet, will have to be endured, and the ultimate result will be a short and poor sample of grain at thrashing time.

The advantages of draining are so obvious that I need scarcely enumerate them—but to bring home such advantages to those who may be ignorant of them, I beg to place the position of *Drainers* and *Non-Drainers* as forcibly as possible before your readers.

The *Drainers* are enabled to plow and sow at least three weeks earlier than *non-Drainers*; to sow dry land, be relieved from the barren appearance occasioned by a summer drought, secure a good crop, get it off early, and be enabled to do the fall

ploughing before winter sets in, which will save a great deal of the hurry and anxiety of spring operations, thus rendering labor easy and highly profitable.

The position of *Non-Drainers* is about the reverse of the latter example. Take him as he is just now; he is keeping up his horses on high feed, to enable them to plough wet, heavy ground at a late period; sow in soil about the consistence of mortar, have his grain getting ripe when the chills of the fall set in, have a poor scanty return of light grain, and be hurried to death to get some little fall ploughing done. While the above wretched operations are going on, the draining farmer has his crops thrashed, a bountiful crop secured, sold, the money in his pocket, and plenty of time to proceed with operations for the ensuing season. Such, indeed, are the results of improvements which produce both wealth and ease.

I have been a close observer of soils, both here and in England, and have no hesitation in saying that the land in Canada is far superior in quality to the latter, and only wants common care, and renewal of seeds from what have been long in use, to produce as good if not better crops than England. The only drawback is the short growing season, which can only be obviated by drainage, deep ploughing, and fresh importations of improved seeds. If such hints were acted upon the results would be astonishing. And as the farming interests of this country are the most vital of all others, (being the backbone of Canada, where manufacturing interests are so lamentably rare) the subject of land improvement is one by far the most deserving of attention; and I hope an occasional remark in your most valuable journal may rouse the farming community from a state of primeval indifference to improvement, the reverse of which would cause a change from the excessive labour they are satisfied to endure, and comparative poverty, to ease and affluence. Let their motto be—"to drain, plough deep, and procure the newest and best seed in the market,"—and all will go well.

I am, dear sir,
Your obedient servant,

X. Y. Z.

Westminster, April 18, 1870.

Editor Farmer's Advocate.

Harrison Potatoes.

Dear Sir,—I believe I promised to send you an account of the Harrison Potatoes I got from you last spring.

I planted sixty-nine pounds, from which I dug thirty-six bushels, just beside and with the same cultivation as Garnet Chilis and Peach Blows, which did not yield more than eight bushels from the same amount of seed.

I am satisfied that farmers do not avail themselves of the opportunity afforded them of procuring choice seeds. I have tried several kinds of seed recommended by you (though not all direct from you), and find them all you said.

Yours respectfully,

ED. JEFFS.

Bond Head, April 12, 1870.

Editor Farmer's Advocate.

A Suggestion.

Dear Sir,—Enclosed please find subscriptions to Farmer's Advocate.

You put me in mind of the two Quakers who had their crops destroyed. One went to work and sowed again, the other folded his hands and grumbled.

If the postage on Agricultural matter is an annoyance to publishers, which every agriculturist will admit that it is under present arrangements—as agricultural papers should certainly have as much encouragement as political, and neither have as much as educational—you and other pub-