

aken out, moulded, and packed. It is claimed that the product thus so fully and quickly freed from all impurities, without any working or kneading, has a finer flavour, aroma, and grain, and better keeping qualities, than when prepared for market in the ordinary way.

Farming in Maryland.

The exponent of farming in this section is Mr Wm. Woolsey. He is said to be the best farmer in Maryland, and second to none in the United States. His beautiful and fertile place is about 7 miles from Belair. Mr Woolsey is not a theorist who has indulged his fancy and spent his money in theoretical farming, but a practical, earnest worker, who has made a fortune from a small beginning by the judicious culture of barren land. There are certain axioms in farming which Mr Woolsey states with an emphasis that will admit of no mistake. His favorite fertilizer, outside of barn-yard manure, is raw bone. He says: "A rich man may use 100 or 200 pounds of bone to the acre if he chooses, because it is not material for him to raise a crop, but a poor man must use from 1,000 to 1,200 pounds to the acre or he will be ruined. Mr Woolsey's grand farm is in strong contrast to its former condition 35 years ago, when he took charge of it, as described by himself and neighbors. For the 312 acres constituting the home place he gave less than \$4,000. It was then dead poor, and would not grow a crop to pay the cost of cultivating the land. Lime did not act on the place, and he has improved with bone. After two years experimenting with guano he gave it up, because he saw he was paying too much for ammonia and was not getting enough phosphate. He has always farmed for money, and has always made it. A number of persons interested in agriculture visit the scene of Mr Woolsey's operations, and all go away impressed with his mode of farming. These not unfrequently are officials and others from a distance. Some time since Governor Hamilton (who is a large farmer) and party came down for the purpose of inspecting Mr Woolsey's crops and cattle. Gov. Hamilton said he had not believed that such crops as he saw could be grown. He was satisfied, he said, that a prominent politician of Harford, who accompanied him, had not overstated the case, though the gentleman was so in the habit of shooting with a long bow that he could not believe him. Gov. Hamilton said he had never raised such a crop of corn as he saw before him, and never expected to, but he would try to improve his corn production. Mr Woolsey plants his corn in rows $3\frac{1}{2}$ feet apart, with 12 to 14 inches between the stalks. His average crop is 100 bushels to the acre on all the land cultivated, and in the last eighteen years he has only gone as low as 80 bushels to the acre on one occasion. He never uses any kind of manure on corn, but turns under a good sod. At Gov. Hamilton's request Mr Woolsey wrote him the average yield of the field which Gov. Hamilton had seen. Mr Woolsey said that in consequence of a severe drought the yield of corn was reduced to 95 bushels per acre, but added, with a smile, few of them can do as well through a large field.

Mr Woolsey, though over 70 years of age, is hale and hearty and as active a man of 40. He left his beautiful residence and highly ornamented and well-shaded grounds to go over the farm with a representative of *The Sun* without feeling that he was doing anything unusual. He talked as he went, and took pleasure in giving to others the benefit of his experience. He seeds his wheat on corn stubble, using $\frac{1}{2}$ ton of raw bone per acre, or if he seeds wheat on fallow, which he does rarely, he puts $\frac{1}{2}$ ton of bone on each acre. Timothy is seeded with the wheat and clover in the spring. Mr Woolsey said 50 bushels of corn per acre would have done 25 years ago, but it won't do now. Agricultural implements

and fertilizers have forced farmers along. The speaker continued, pointing to luxuriant fields of grass, that they would do for beds for any person in winter time, so continuous was the growth. These fields stay in grass from 4 to 6 years, and cut 2 tons of hay to the acre. As they grow older the growth is not so heavy, but the hay is finer. His permanent pasture has been in grass 25 years. Cattle are on it all the time from early spring until late in the fall. It was in many places overwaist-high, and would have cut a fine crop of hay. The wheat average on corn stubble is about 30 bushels, last year it was 33. On fallow the average has been 45. The oat yield is 50 to 60 bushels per acre, and as high as 70 bushels have been made. Mr Woolsey said he tried to get rich raising potatoes. The first year he got \$1.25 per bushel, and was well satisfied, the next year he got but 25 cents per bushel, and stopped raising in quantities. He plants the middle of June, and thinks the Bu. bank the best variety. He farms, in all, between 700 and 800 acres.

Cattle-grazing he regards as the most profitable branch of farming, and he fattens from 125 to 150 head annually. Drovers bring two-year-old steers to his barn from West Virginia. He buys the feeding stock at his farm and sells the fattened cattle there. He has large scales there, and buys and sells by weight. Last year a drover came up with a drove of 101 head, and Mr Woolsey gave him \$5,000 for them on sight. When he is ready to sell, merchants come to his place from New York and Philadelphia. Most of his cattle are shipped to Europe. Mr Woolsey said that the West Virginia beef was the best that got to the Baltimore market. The cattle for fattening were bought last October, and sold from March to September. In summer the cattle get grass alone. In winter all are stalled and fed grain. Mr Woolsey raised a steer that weighed 2,700 lbs. The cattle when sold weigh on an average 1,400 pounds. He has put on as much as an average of 600 pounds in 12 months on one whole lot of cattle, but generally less. The cattle were seen feeding finely, looking as if anxious to take on all the fat possible. They are attaining greater weight this year on grass than ever before, and the whole herd will easily average 1,600 pounds. They are all three year-old-steers. Some were pointed out to Mr Woolsey as having the beautiful heads, straight backs and rich colors of the Devons. He said yes, and that some of the fancy breeders pretended to object to Devon blood, but he always told the drovers not to stop in the selection of his cattle on account of an admixture of Devon stock, because he liked it. There is much in the selection of stock for grazing, and several gentlemen in the neighborhood stated they would be glad to pay Mr Woolsey \$2 per head to select their fattening cattle, as they would make an additional \$7 per head by having him do so.

Mr Woolsey says it is the finest grass season ever seen in Harford; that it is time for the grass to begin to fail, but it is as succulent as it was in May. All the grass fields are booming. The prospect for the corn crop is as good as Mr Woolsey ever saw, the wheat a full average, oats unusually heavy, potatoes as good as can be. Mr Woolsey keeps Berkshire pigs. Mr Woolsey has some grade Jerseys, descendants of an animal presented to him by Mr Enoch Pratt. Mr Pratt and the gentleman who raised the Jersey presented to Mr Woolsey, a noted breeder of such cattle, were on a visit some time ago to Mr Woolsey. The grade Jerseys were shown, and the breeder of pure cattle, Mr Woolsey states, said that a cross of Devon and Jersey was much better for milk and butter than the pure Jerseys, adding that of course it did not do, for him to make this declaration in his own locality. Mr Woolsey has many followers in farming in Harford, and is generally looked up to in agricultural matters.

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