

crossed with our native breeds. I have made choice of the Leicestershire breeds of sheep, and the Berkshire hogs, and also a cross with the latter upon a larger breed, in both cases I have been very successful. When I first brought some of the Berkshire home, I told my neighbours the price that I paid for them and the distance I had gone after them, they thought that I was labouring under a derangement of mind; but when they saw the difference in keeping and fattening them compared with the "land pike" and other similar breeds, they very soon allowed reason and common sense to prevail, and concluded that it was themselves who were labouring under a derangement of mind. Some however will not yet give up the point, and not unfrequently say that the difference in breed is merely a difference in the keep; and I am not a little amused to listen to their remarks and inquiries, when they see some of my Berkshire stock running in the pasture, and fed in the ordinary way, being as fat and sleek as seals, and fit for the butchers' shambles: why, say they, you must feed them on "pudding and sweet milk."

I had almost forgotten to give you the weight of two pigs which were farrowed on the 20th of August last, the one a full blooded Berkshire, and the other a cross of the Berkshire with the English grass breed. These pigs weighed on the 27th September, 57y, *Blucher* 22½ lbs., and *Maclum* 23 lbs. On the 17th November following, weighed them again—*Blucher* weighed 76 lbs., and *Maclum* 75 lbs.; thus, you will perceive, was something more than one pound per day.

I now beg pardon for having trespassed so long upon your patience, and in return shall try to increase your subscription in this neighbourhood, wishing you all possible success, with the compliments of the season.

I subscribe myself,

Your very Obedient,

J. W. ROSE.

WILLIAMSBURG, January 17th, 1843.

P.S. Berkshire Pigs, Durham Bulls, and Leicester Lambs on sale. J. W. R.

For The Cultivator.

Sir,

Having noticed in one of the numbers of THE CULTIVATOR some observations on "Curing Hams," I would suggest a method that I have practiced for a number of years, and have never failed in having both good hams and bacon.

To each leg or piece weighing 20 lbs., add one ounce of saltpetre, one pint of Liverpool salt, and half a pint of molasses, put all the ingredients in a tight vessel, and baste the legs with the pickle once a day for a fortnight. They should remain in the pickle about four weeks, when they will be sufficiently cured for smoking or drying.

There should be no water added to the pickle as the ingredients will make sufficient for curing. Hams cured in this way will not come far short of being equal to the famous Westphalian hams.

Hogs sometimes when fattening are subject to a disease called *measles*, to prevent which they should be given sulphur occasionally when fattening, and they will not be troubled with the disease; and it also gives them a good appetite for their food, and will cause them to fatten better.

Respectfully yours'

H. WELLS, P.M.

HENRYVILLE, 29th Nov'r., 1842.

P.S. Should you think the following worth inserting in your Cultivator, you are at liberty to do so:—Little children when first beginning to run about the house, frequently put beans, Indian corn, &c., up their nose, thereby causing much pain and injury to themselves and serious apprehensions to their parents. I will suggest a plan which may not be generally known among your readers, and one which have frequently been practiced with complete success. Stop the mouth and ears close, and insert a quill into the opposite nostril, and give a smart blow and it will fly out at once. H. W.

For The Cultivator.

A CHAPTER ON IMPROVEMENTS.

There is an opinion which very generally obtains among operative labourers, that the introduction of machines, by which the time and labour necessary to the completion of a process are greatly diminished, clashes with their interests. That this, however, is an error, and not of that class to which Cicero referred, when he said, "Not every error is to be called folly," must, I think, upon investigation, plainly appear.

Any object, which has the power of gratifying human desire and is capable of being appropriated, is called *wealth*. He who possesses a great number of these objects, or the means of procuring them, is termed *rich*, and *vice versa*.

Now, as it is, with few exceptions, the wish of every one to become rich, whatever will facilitate the acquirement of the objects of human desire; or, in other words, whatever will have a tendency to place the greatest number and variety of these objects within the reach of the greatest number of persons, by parity of reason, deserves their immediate and unqualified approbation. That labour-saving machinery must, of necessity, have this effect, can, I think, be conclusively shown.

We will suppose, that before the discovery of the art of printing, a copy of the Scriptures would cost fifty dollars, in consequence of the amount of labour necessary to produce it, and that only the man worth a thousand dollars a year could afford to purchase one; and as this class of persons was very small, but few Bibles would be required, and therefore but few scribes employed in their production. But suppose, that after the first successful attempt at printing, half the amount of labour would accomplish the same result; that is to say, fifty men would now produce as many Bibles as one hundred formerly, a Bible could now be sold at half its former price, viz. twenty-five dollars; therefore, the man worth five hundred dollars a year would be able to purchase a copy. Now, if the demand were only doubled by this reduction of price, it is plain that just as many labourers would be required as before, with this difference, that the *manner* of labour is changed; and, therefore, those who were formerly *writers*, if they wish to be engaged in the production of the same commodity, must now learn to be *printers*.—and this, I apprehend, is the chief difficulty in every case where improvements are complained of: the nature of this difficulty I shall consider presently. It is evident, from the following considerations, that the demand for Bibles will be *more* than doubled, in consequence of the reduction of price. In the first place, the class worth one thousand dollars a year, in every age and of every nation, has been, and is, less numerous than the class worth five hundred

dollars; and as each individual of the latter class is just as able to purchase a Bible, since the introduction of printing, as one of the former class previously, it follows that the demand will be more than doubled, for that reason. But this is not all: there are a great number of classes between those worth 1,000 dollars and those worth 500 dollars, as 600 dollars, 500 dollars, &c., who can also become purchasers and as each of these classes is larger than the first, every one must see that the demand will be increased infinitely; add to this, the fact, that those who before could only afford one Bible, will now probably purchase *two*; and then, as the supply in every case has a tendency to equal the demand, take into the account the immense number of persons that will be required to procure rags to make paper, others to construct printing-presses, to manufacture types, and to perform all the various kinds of labour necessarily connected with the creation of this product, and I think the proposition, that the use of machinery has a tendency to increase the number and wages of labourers in that very department of industry in which they are employed, will appear somewhat less paradoxical than may have been supposed.

Nor is the case I have stated exaggerated, or fictitiously drawn; it is the fact, or rather, it is less than the truth. To say nothing of the incalculable value of the Word of God, religiously considered, and of the incalculable benefit conferred upon society by those improvements, which have increased the productiveness of human industry to such an extent that this inappreciable treasure is placed within the reach of the poorest of the poor; without any reference to this, the illustration, in so far as it shows a manifest *tendency*, is applicable to every other case.

In regard to the objection, that by a change in the manner of labour, a few are thrown out of employment, it need only be said, that this intelicity is no other than that which belongs to the tenure of all subsidiary possession. Few men, indeed, pass through life without changing, either from choice or necessity, the nature of their occupation; and therefore the labourer, in this respect, suffers no peculiar hardship.

If a new kind of work is to be done, some one must learn to do it, and will be paid for learning. But if the scribe regard printing as an unwarrantable innovation, and have such a predilection for his own time-honoured profession that he refuse to learn it, he may quarrel with his own obstinacy, but he has nothing else to blame.

W. M. D.

Toronto, January, 1843.

TAMWORTH, Oct. 17.—Dr. Buckland, Dr. Lyon Playfair, the translator of Liebig, and Mr. George Stephenson, the civil engineer, are on a visit to Drayton Manor. Sir R. Peel invited his principal tenants and the leading agriculturists in the neighbourhood to meet them at breakfast, in order that they might profit by the opportunity of personal intercourse with men of so much eminence. A party of nearly thirty persons was assembled. Conversation took place in the course of the morning of the most interesting nature on various subjects connected with the improvement of agriculture—on the necessity of draining, as the foundation of all other improvements—on the use of lime as a manure—on the feeding of cattle—and the importance of warmth as well as food, &c., &c. The party separated about two o'clock, having derived the greatest satisfaction from their visit.—*Eng. paper.*