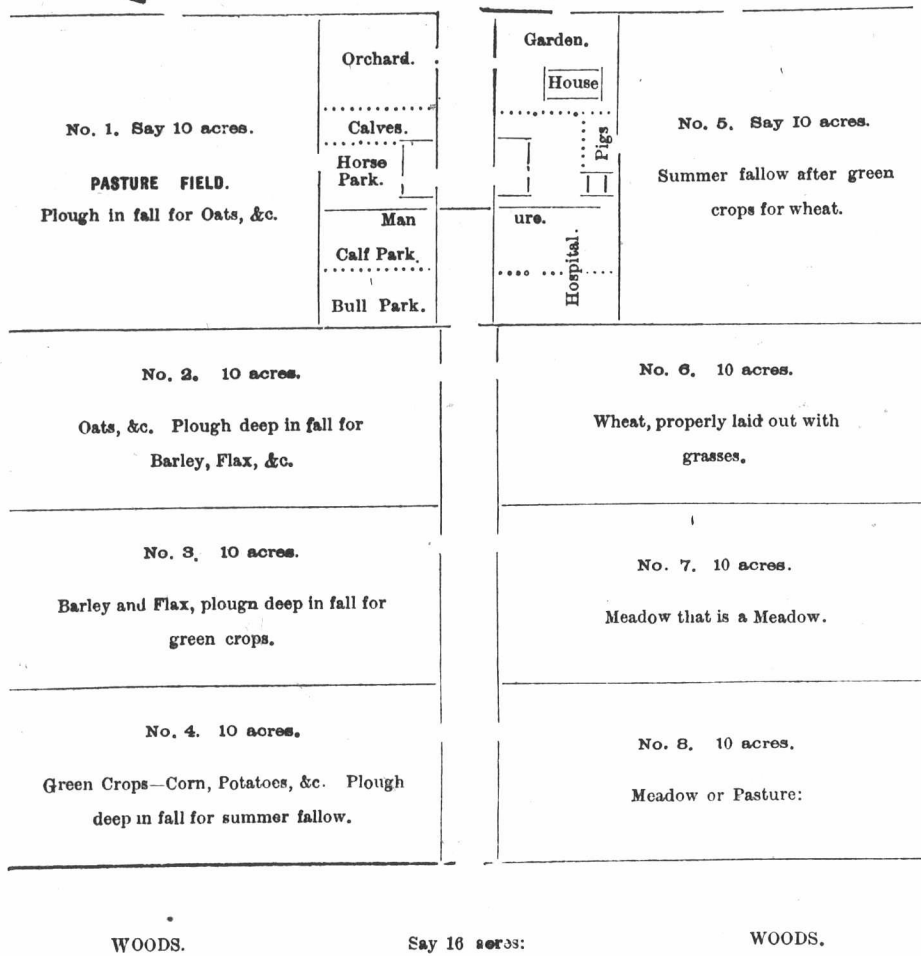


PUBLIC ROAD.



SECOND PRIZE ESSAY ON THE CULTIVATION OF TURNIPS.

DEAR SIR—I farmed at home, dear old Ulster, on the seven year shift. Ploughed pasture in the fall sowed with oats in the spring, then ploughed as deep as possible in the fall for flax. The next year again deep fall ploughing for green crops turnips, mangold, potatoes, barley, &c. This was a beautiful bed for fall wheat, but too late for this country. I always laid down my ground with proper grasses after the green crop, then you may expect a meadow, 5th year, 6th year meadow or pasture, 7th year meadow ploughed in the fall, and so on. Let any farmer that wants peace of mind, wants to do justice to his farm, wants to make money, wants a beautiful farm, get his farm into eight fields in this country, as a person cannot get off his green crops, potatoes, &c., in time. I would plough in the fall after my green crops, &c., were off. See the beautiful matured and clean field you have to follow the next year for your fall wheat, clear of weeds, well manured and pulverized—this is the bed for wheat. Say 100 acres in eight 10 acre fields—No. 1, pasture, plough in the fall. (See diagram) No. 2, field, oats; No. 3, flax or barley; No. 4, grain crops, corn, &c.; No. 5, summer fallow; No. 6, wheat properly laid down; No. 7, meadow; No. 8, meadow or pasture. Each field during every eight years goes through all these crops, and so does the whole farm. A man sees what he is at; he may fairly expect a good honest return from all his fields, and he can tell what crop will be, or should be, in any one of his fields for any number of years in the future. The first thing on a farm is a proper manure pit, so that all the run from all the houses is caught and kept. Then in the slack time, when the crop is all in, fill this place with muck of all kinds, pairings of drain, &c., all good manure for next year; without manure no farming. The great point in farming is the largest return with the smallest expense and labor, without exhausting the farm. This must be the grand aim of all wise men.

For turnips I would take a poor, exhausted stubble field, if a field of this kind be on the farm, surely it wants friendly hands, and I always found the nicest turnips, with only one root or feeder, no forks. If the land be poor, the manure right in the drill under the turnip, it sends down one long feeder to the manure, it has no inducement to send out feeders all around, consequently you have a beautiful, clear turnip, with only one root. The field intended for turnips I plough deep in the fall, hint the furrows properly, lease the field that

no water will lodge on it in the spring. After the grain crop is in, harrow and cross plough deep, then harrow right after the cross ploughing, and if the sun be strong for three or four days harrow again. The first harrowing pulverizes the ground and leaves the weeds on the surface for the sun to get his strength at; the second harrowing pulverizes and carries off nearly all the dry weeds, then plough as you intend to have your drills, harrow properly as before, then your drill plough with two mould boards, or you can fix up an old plough with wooden mould boards, will do. If you intend to manure highly the wider your drills are apart the better, but from 28 to 33 inches I found good crops. I open my drills that I can get the manure into and scattered, from say 3 o'clock p. m. to 9 o'clock a. m. the next day, then close your drills before the strong sun gets at the fresh moist manure. Let as little sun as possible at the manure, pass your waggon along, wheels in the open drills, scatter over three drills. My plan of planting is in holes, it save seed and you are sure to have a plant where you want it, and the flies have not half the power on plants in bunches as when scattered along in the drill, and one sixth of the seed does. Get a large wheel with movable markers; wheel this along on the top of the drill; it leaves its small mark at say nine, ten, and eleven, but I would recommend nine, inches apart in this country, then a good smart boy runs along and drops from four to six grain in each hole. Pass a good heavy roller over the drills; this covers all and presses down the drills. The whole field is level now, and holds the moisture for the plants. When the crop is fit for thinning pass the cultivator between the drills. After a day or so pass along, select your plant in the bunch, pass your left hand on it between it and the others, with one sweep of the right hand you remove all the unfortunates! This can be done nearly as fast as a person can walk, then in a few days when the plants get well on their feet, pass along with the hoe and top the little riband between the plants. After this use your cultivator or plough as often as you can through the drills, and lastly, pass your drill plough through the drills, raise the mould so as to be somewhat higher than where the plant enters the ground, this keeps the plant nice and moist, and carries off all the surface water. At the time of lifting pass along with a good sharp hoe, nip off the top with one little blow, and toss in the turnip every two drills together. A good smart person will do as much as four persons will do at hand pulling, and its is much safer, for the

turnip never gets the hard toss from the hoe it receives from the hands of one of our tall, powerful six feet four Cannucks.

Your obedient servant,
EDWARD MCCOLLUM.
Daunt, Jan. 3, 1873.

SOILING.

SIR—I sowed one acre of American corn in drills, and fed fifteen cows from the proceeds for two months, feeding sometimes once, but generally twice a day; also two horses twice a day. I believe this to be the most profitable acre I have ever sown.

JOHN CORBEN.

Burgessville, Jan., 1873.

NORTH WATERLOO FARMERS' CLUB.

A public meeting was held at St. Jacobs, on the 1st inst., for the purpose of organizing a Farmers' Club for the North Riding of Waterloo.

The chairman explained the object of the meeting, after which it was resolved—That it is highly desirable that a Farmers' Club for the North Riding of Waterloo be organized for the discussion of questions pertaining to agriculture, and for the mental improvement of farmers generally, with a branch Club for each Township within the Riding; and that the officers of the Clubs shall be a President and Secretary-Treasurer for the Riding Club, and a Vice President for each branch Club; the entrance fee to be fifty cents.

Mr. James Potter was appointed President and J. E. Bowman, M. P. P., Secretary and Treasurer for the Riding Club. Vice Presidents were appointed as follows: For Waterloo Township, Menno Bowman; Woolwich Township, H. W. Peterson; Wellesley Township, D. Pitch.

The first subject for discussion was "The Best and Cheapest Mode of Fattening Cattle." I hope by the assistance of your worthy paper that our Club will soon be in good working order, and second to none in the Province."

J. T. WILFORD.

Waterloo, Jan. 1st, 1873.

Uncle Tom's Column.

My Dear Nieces and Nephews,—

I feel as proud as a barn with ever so many fancy lightning rods on it, or as a hen that has just laid a capital big egg; and, if you could see the HEAR of letters on my table from you all, you would know why this was thusly. Just look at the list below of nephews and nieces who have written to me during the last month; and such splendid letters—full of fun and full of love for their old uncle, and I thank for his puzzles. Letters from little nephews who are same and cannot play like other children, but who take delight in studying out the puzzles. Letters from sick nieces who have some of their wearisome hours amused by Uncle Tom's Column. Letters from healthy and hearty nephews and nieces who have fun over our column in the evenings, when father and mother and all the rest of them puzzle their brains and enjoy themselves with our games and catches. Here is a letter from one of my nieces:

Ottawa, Jan. 5th, 1873.

Dear Uncle Tom,—
I send you a lot of puzzles and some answers. Oh, what an awfully hard lot you gave us last time. I want to puzzle you a little now. They say at school that kiss is a noun. Can you tell me it is proper or common? We decline nouns at school; can you decline a kiss?
I am your loving niece,
BESSIE H.—

I must say I am caught this time. However if I was in Ottawa, I might persuade Bessie that it was quite proper. I know that if it is very common I don't want anything to do with it. As to declining it—well, I ought to be able to do so, being a married man, but I very much doubt my ability.

Some of the answers to the puzzles are capital, even when not the same as required. For instance, several say, "I and R are the hottest letters, because they are in the middle of fire." Others say, "B and F, because B makes urn burn, and F makes fire fire."

Where you give as good answers as these, I count them right.

Some of the answers to the question: "Why is a widower like a house out of repair?" were very good. One said, "Because both have seen better days," and another, "Because both need a joiner."

A great many went astray on the shoemaker question, some even going so far as to declare that the shoemaker lost 40 shillings and the pair of boots.

About the acrobats—I have won, having had a majority of 21 in favor of ten acrobats.

I have received a grand lot of new puzzles, many of which will appear in future numbers of the ADVOCATE.

After the pleasant time we have had together this month, I think I may close this letter to you by saying, "For you are mine, and I am thine, and we are both EACH'S."

UNCLE TOM.

ANSWERS TO PUZZLES IN JAN. NO.

1. I love but one and that is thee;
Read up and down and you will see
That I'll have you if you'll have me.
2. London on the Thames.
3. L I N K
I D E A
N E R I
K A I L
4. P E A S
E A S E
A S I A
S E A L

5. January.

6. Too cross you are, too cross you be, I see
You are too cross for me.
7. A cat caught a rat. (a c a t c o u g h t a r a t.)
8. When you put your stocking on.
9. Place three grains touching one another
and place the fourth on top of them.
10. Because they both need repairing.
11. K N (Cayenne.)
12. Four shillings and the pair of boots.
13. Lyons. 14. Thebes. 15. Damascus.
16. Dover. 17. Constantinople. 18. Venice,
Nice, Jerusalem, Salem.

NEW PUZZLES.

19. A man had a forty pound weight which was accidentally broken in four pieces. On examination of the pieces he was quite pleased, for he could weigh anything with them from one to forty pounds. What was the weight of each piece?
ELIZABETH ROBERTSON.

20. SINGLE ACROSTIC.

The initials name a city. 1. An eastern plant. 2. A veg. table. 3. A kind of grain. 4. One of the United States. 5. A planet. 6. A story. 7. A Canadian city.

MARTHA JOHNSON.

21. Elz. zu. pysa eyre. vasis. iht.
R. REVELL.
22. A lady going to her flour barrel exclaimed: "O I C U R M T." What did she mean?
ELLEN V. MCGANNON.

HIDDEN CITIES.

23. He delights to destroy our reputation.
24. Before the seer of Patmos cowards shrink with awe.
25. Ye sons of liberty rejoice in freedom.
26. You cannot hold that baby long.

K.

B e D

28. Thousands of beings are waiting for me,
But their waiting is all in vain;
Centuries pass, yet come I never,
And those who wait for me wait for ever.
W. A. FURLONG.

Cut out pieces of cardboard of these shapes, and put them together so as to make a perfect cross:—



THE PRIZES.

Three of my correspondents have answered all the puzzles in January No. correctly. As there was only one prize promised, I was in a

bad fix; how
lisher to gran
deserving the
prizes for cor

JAM
ANN
Mos

The prizes

1st prize, -

2nd prize, -

I should be

more prizes t

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sent excellen

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All these pri

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if they are s

win this tim

all done well

hope very so

so be getting

puzzle, mak

The follo

person who

The numbe

shows how

James Li

London, 18

F. A. Camp

Fenelon Pa

17; Bella F

vote); Sam

Revell, Ing

Elaie Craig

ston, 15; J

R. Hornor,

Insby, 15;

Margaret Y

Newton Ro

13; Helena

Nelson, Ot

12; Jacob

Robertson,

Zurich, 12

Emeline W

Clure, Mc

Wherry, N

10; Marti

McGannon

froy, 10; J

Hammond,

ford, Mill

burg, 9;

John H. I

ger, S. Cay

8; William

C. Greer, C

ton, 8; Ed

Winder, B

land, 4; J

Albert St

Lancaster,

Martha R

Eastwood,

Duart, 1;

James Mc

The follo

responden

puzzles.

of merit.

1. Thom

C. Durha

Sherkston

John S. B

Kilayth;

Newmark

10, Sidne

Robertson

B-rin; 1

Mc—, C