

## \* The Farm. \*

### Control of Soil Moisture.

Ploughing, which is usually the first operation upon the soil, should be thoroughly and properly done, for aftercultivation can never make up for defects in this fundamental operation. The soil should be moist enough so that as the furrow slice bends it will break and crumble, leaving it in a pulverized condition, rather than in clods or lumps. The amount of moisture in the soil is a very important factor in ploughing, and also in harrowing and aftercultivation.

The moisture in the layer of agricultural soil can be quite largely controlled by proper methods of tillage. If we wish to dry sod land which has been wet by heavy rains after ploughing, we can by rolling re-establish to a large extent capillary attraction and bring the water to the surface for evaporation. The process of drying can be checked at the proper stage by thoroughly pulverizing the upper portion of the soil, which will break the connection of the soil particles and act as a mulch. This matter of being able to control the moisture content of the soil to a considerable degree is worthy of careful consideration, as it has much influence upon the temperature and mechanical condition of the soil. Especially in seasons of drouth it means the success or failure of the crop.

The difference between cultivating land one inch in depth and three inches in depth in its different effects upon the moisture content of the soil is very considerable, as is also the effect of the styles of tools used in the work. The tool making wide, deep grooves and ridges increases the rate of evaporation, while one which pulverizes and makes the soil very fine will decrease the rate of evaporation. The first gives more surface to the air, and consequently the moisture evaporates more rapidly. The other not only more completely breaks the capillary attraction by which the water rises to the surface, but exposes less of the soil to the air. (J. A. Tillinghast, in American Agriculturist.)

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### The Duty of the Soil.

The duty which the soil has to perform for the plant is twofold—to feed it and supply it with water. The former is done through the instrumentality of the latter, by which the food held in the earth is dissolved and conveyed to stem, foliage and fruit. The plant absorbs water mainly through its roots; its leaves may take in a little after showers or a fall of dew, but when the sun shines or the air is dry they are more often losing it by evaporation. This, however, if the soil is sufficiently moist, is really favorable to growth. The loss of water from the leaf surface produces an upward stream of moisture from the roots; this brings with it in solution the constituents needed for the development of the plant, and so the greater the evaporation the more rapid the transference of nutriment from the soil, and the greater the growth.

Plants sometimes show themselves less dependent than might be expected on the quantity of the rainfall. Excess is bad, and no crop thrives well on an ill drained, sodden soil; but so, also, is defect, though often much water makes its way upward in certain soils by capillary action. But, apart from this, if the soil contains the requisite constituents a good crop may be yielded after a very small rainfall. In this case the solution present in the earth is comparatively concentrated, but when much rain has fallen the reverse happens. Just as for a man a gill of strong soup may be better than a gallon of weak broth, so a plant may thrive in a rather arid climate. Some of the Western States of North America often afford illustrations of this. There the rainfall is small—from thirteen to eighteen inches a year—at most, barely three-quarters of what is received in the London area; and besides that, most of it falls in the winter, before the growth of the crop has commenced. The water level in the ground beneath is quite out of reach,

for it is, at the least, twenty feet from the surface. Yet good crops of wheat are raised, since the soil is rich in soluble mineral salts, which, directly or indirectly, are nutritious to the grain. But a good supply of water is necessary if really fine crops are to be obtained.—(London Standard.)

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### Seeding Grass on Inverted Sod.

I have practised this system (seeding grass on inverted sod) more or less for nearly thirty years, and believe there is no system that will produce more hay with a given amount of manure. I have been in the habit of turning over the sod on reasonably moist ground in August, applying to each acre thirty good loads of stable manure that has been well cared for in the barn cellar. After this I harrow fine and sow eight quarts of timothy and sixteen quarts of redtop seed to the acre. I have usually top dressed after cropping one year and find in this way I can get as much hay a will stand on the ground without getting down.

I have tried many other ways and have found none that will do as well for me. This time of seeding is reasonable—sure, perhaps as sure as any season, without it is early spring. In the last few years I have fitted land ready for seed any time up to the freezing season in November. Then as soon as the snow is off in the spring sow on the seed, adding a little clover. I have never failed in this way to get a catch. Weeds may trouble a little the first crop, but not after.—(New-England Homestead.)

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### Pure Bred Poultry.

I think if farmers would once keep some kind of pure bred poultry and once feel the satisfaction their possession gives they never would return to mixed flocks. Choose any kind you wish. Any pure bred flock is handsome if kept pure. I have always preferred Light Brahmas. A flock of 50 will make as big a show on the farm with their white plumage and lovely black markings as 200 mixed fowls. Yes; they make as good a show on the table, too, as four times their number of most chickens.

But no bird ever gave me so much satisfaction as the White Holland turkey. I have bred them for 25 years. People are directed to our farm for 12 miles around, 'Go till you see a lot of pure white turkeys.' They never get to be as large as the bronze, but they mature early and bring more per pound in the market than the coarser meat varieties. Best of all, they are 'keepers at home.' My first venture was a white gobbler with bronze hens. They made a fine cross of pretty turkeys beautifully speckled that one's neighbors could not claim.

I would rather have a pair of Toulouse geese for pets than any birds I know, they are so bright and companionable. They can almost talk. And when the flock move along near the ground, their great wings beating the air—they are two heavy to fly—the noise is like a train of cars in motion.—Mrs. B. J. McClure.

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## One More Unfortunate

Wanted the DIAMOND DYES  
but was induced by her  
dealer to try another  
make.

A lady writing from a small town in New Brunswick to the proprietors of Diamond Dyes, says:

"Please find enclosed Express Money Order for six packets of Diamond Dyes, colors as mentioned below. I have been a user of Diamond Dyes for over five years and they have given me entire satisfaction. A few weeks ago our merchant was out of a color I wanted in the Diamond Dyes and strongly recommended another make he was selling. I bought the packet with many doubts as to its worth. I made an effort to dye an old cream colored opera shawl with the new dye. The ghastly result almost drove me mad. There was not a semblance of any decided color. Now I am obliged to dye it black, and will do the work with the Diamond Dyes. No more poor muddy dyes for me while I can send to you for the reliable Diamond Dyes."



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Does Sleep not bring Refreshment?

Do you feel wretched, mean and miserable in the mornings—as tired as when you went to bed? It's a serious condition—too serious to neglect, and unless you have the heart and nervous system strengthened and the blood enriched by



Milburn's Heart and Nerve Pills, collapse is almost certain to ensue. Mr. Fred. H. Graham, a well known young man of Barrie, Ont., says:—"I have had a great deal of trouble with my heart for four years. I was easily agitated and my excitement caused my heart to throb violently. I had dizziness and shortness of breath, and often arose in the mornings feeling as tired as when I went to bed. I was terribly nervous. Milburn's Heart and Nerve Pills have done wonders for me. They have restored my heart to regular healthy action, giving me back sound restful sleep, and making my nervous system strong and vigorous."

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## Notice of Sale.

To the Heirs, Executors and Administrators of Samuel Mallery, late of the Parish of Simonds, in the City and County of Saint John, and Province of New Brunswick, Farmer, deceased, and to Maria E., his wife, and to all others whom it doth, can or may concern:

Take notice that there will be sold by Public Auction, at Chubb's Corner (so called) in the City of Saint John, in the City and County of Saint John and Province aforesaid, on Saturday, the Twentieth day of October next, at twelve o'clock noon,—"All that certain lot, piece or parcel of land situate, lying and being, partly in the Parish of Upham in the County of Kings, and partly in the Parish of Saint Martins, in the said City and County of Saint John, known and distinguished as lot number four (4) in the Grant under the Great Seal of the said Province to Archibald Rutledge, and others, containing two hundred acres more or less and bounded on the South and West by land owned by George Duncan, on the East by land owned by Andrew Ruddle, and known as the Senthil Farm, and on the North by lands owned by Andrew S. Fowler," together with all and singular the buildings, improvements, privileges and appurtenances to the said premises belonging or in any wise appertaining.

The above sale will be made under and by virtue of a Power of Sale contained in a certain Indenture of Mortgage made by the said Samuel Mallery and Maria E., his wife, of the one part, and the Foreign Mission Board of the Baptist Convention of the Maritime Provinces of the other part, dated the first day of April, A. D. 1892, and duly registered in the offices of the Registrars of Deeds in and for the Counties of Kings and the County of the City and County of Saint John, in book Z, No. 4, pages 615, 616, 617 and 618, of Records the twenty-first day of June, A. D. 1892, and in book No. 43, pages 29, 30 and 31, of Records the twenty-first day of April, A. D. 1892, respectively, reference being thereunto had will more fully and at large appear, details having been made in the payment of the money secured by the said Indenture of Mortgage.

Dated the first day of August, A. D. 1900.  
The Foreign Mission Board of the Baptist Convention of the Maritime Provinces,  
Mortgage.

AMON A. WILSON, J. W. MANNING,  
Solicitor to Mortgage. Secretary.

**BE SURE**

BE SURE and get our BARGAIN prices and terms on our slightly used Karn Pianos and Organs.

BE SURE and get the aforesaid before buying elsewhere.

WE MUST SELL our large and increasing stock of slightly used Karn Pianos and Organs to make room for the GOODS WE REPRESENT.

**MILLER BROS.**

101, 103 Barrington Street HALIFAX, N. S.

Premier Dunsmuir of British Columbia has fulfilled his promise regarding the employment of Celestials in his mines. One hundred and twenty-five men have left for Dunsmuir mines at Comox to replace Chinese and Japanese formerly employed.

Much indignation has been aroused in Cape Colony by the vilification of Sir Alfred Milner by the South African News, which recently said: "We only know there can be but one end to the policy of infamy inaugurated by the blind, conceited, narrow-minded, insatuated mediocrity that sits in Government House."