

greatest benefit from it. As farmers we only want to know what it will produce, and every farmer knows, or ought to know, that there is a vast difference in the quality of manure. The value of manure consists not in the amount of food given to cattle through the winter, but the quality of food fed out; for instance, cattle fed merely upon straw just for the sake of getting them through the winter, the manure from such fed cattle is hardly worth carting out; give them roots, either turnips or potatoes with the straw. One load of manure from cattle wintered in that way would be worth three to one.

The great want on all farms is the want of manure, and in this county, where there are large tracts of dyke land, hay is the chief product sold off the farm, it simply means so much less manure for the uplands, the more that is sold off the fewer cattle can be kept, consequently the uplands are becoming poorer every year. My experience has shown me that there is a remedy whereby the uplands can be made more productive by what I call a proper application of the manure that the farmer has at his disposal. The rule has been, and is still adhered to, of ploughing the manure under, covering it from four to six inches.

I found that it was a great mistake. After different experiments of one sort or another, the best way of applying the manure I found to be this: after the land is ploughed put the harrow over it once, then cart out your manure, spread it evenly and harrow in thoroughly. Whether it is grass or roots that you are putting in, the crop gets the immediate benefit of the manure, as after every little rain the juices of the manure are washed down to the roots of the growing crops. If it is grain and the land seeded down to grass, the difference in the crop of hay the following year will more than satisfy anyone who will try the application of manure in this way. My rule is, and has been for some years back, to keep the manure as near the surface as possible, and in doing so get the best results, and what is of great importance, where manure is scarce that it does not require quite so much per acre.

**A MATTER FOR THOUGHT.—ROADS**—How to get good roads may well be discussed by farmers' clubs during the winter, and should be thought about by every farmer. How important this matter is, is shown by the following statement made by Mr. Rudolph Hering, President of the Equitarians' Club, of Philadelphia: A load which one horse can draw on level iron rails will require, on smooth, level asphalt road, one and two-third horses; on bad Belgian pavement, three and one-eighth horses; on good cobble-stone road, seven horses; on bad cobble stone road, thirteen horses; on ordinary earth road, twenty horses; on sand road, forty horses.

Good roads not only save horseflesh, but vehicles. Take what are ordinarily called "good roads" and "bad roads," and a vehicle used on the first only will last twice as long, at least, as one used on the latter only. No one can doubt that country roads would be fifty per cent. better than they now are, if the labor and money put upon them were properly applied. How to have that work and money properly applied is the matter to be discussed now, that the best methods may be ready for adoption when the season for road-making comes. Whether or not the road-bed should be only surface drained, or underdrained with tile, or by putting in a corduroy foundation; whether or not gravel or plank should be used; how best to use gravel, or plank, or tile—these are points to be decided before spring. The farmers' club should also discuss specifically the repair of each highway in the neighborhood. This will lead, among other things, to an understanding whether or not it will be proper to shorten a highway by straightening it; whether a road that now goes around a hill should be carried over it by grading down the hill, or whether making a road longer by carrying it around a hill will be compensated for by the less grade; how to keep weeds from growing in the highways, to seed the adjacent land, and many other points which, thus being settled, would greatly add to the improvement of the roads.

**THE BEST TIME TO PRUNE.—F. M. Borden**, Nova Scotia, has been informed by a land surveyor, that he has noticed in "blazing" trees, that the wounds made in early summer heal sooner than those made at any other time, and infers from this that early summer is the best time to prune fruit trees. Mr. Borden asks our opinion. The time for pruning is not always fixed as that best for the tree, but the convenience of the operator is also considered. The growth in length of the branches of our fruit trees is made early in the season; then the energies of the tree are directed toward maturing and ripening the growth thus made. Wounds made during this time of ripening heal more readily than at any other, and is the best time for the welfare of the tree. On the other hand, the farmer has, in the late winter or early spring, more time to give to pruning than in any other season. The severity of winter is over, the trees have not yet started into new growth, and, take it altogether, this is regarded as the most convenient season by most orchardists.—*American Agriculturist.*

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## Mining Regulations

TO GOVERN THE DISPOSAL OF MINERAL LANDS OTHER THAN COAL LANDS.

The Regulations apply to all Dominion Lands containing deposit of minerals of economic value, except coal.

### QUARTZ MINING.

Area of location is limited to forty acres, except in the case of iron, when one hundred and sixty acres are allowed.

Claimants must stake out the location, and within ninety days afterwards make an entry for it with the local Land Agent, paying a fee of five dollars, and shall then have one year, or, with the sanction of the Minister of the Interior, two years within which to purchase location at five dollars per acre, cash. He must also expend within each year at least five hundred dollars in development.

No person shall hold more than one location on the same vein or lode.

Applicant must also when he pays for his location deposit fifty dollars with the Land Agent to pay for the survey, and the returns of such survey must be accepted by the Surveyor-General before the issue of patent.

Should an iron location prove to contain a deposit of valuable mineral other than iron the area shall be restricted to forty acres.

Provision is made for the manner in which land may be acquired for reduction and other works required for developing the mine.

### PLACER MINING.

The Regulations for Quartz Mining apply to Placer Mining wherever possible.

The nature and size of Placer Mining claims are provided for in the Regulations and the rights and duties of miners fully set forth.

The Regulations govern the mode of acquiring, constructing and operating Bed-rock Flumes, Drainage of Mines, and Ditches.

The General Provisions of the Regulations define how disputes shall be heard and determined leave of absence granted, &c., &c.

Copies of the Regulations may be obtained upon application to the Department of the Interior.

A. M. BURGESS,

Deputy Minister of the Interior  
Ottawa, 28th December, 1896.

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