

He has no shed for his fire wood—consequently his wife is out of humor, and his meals out of season.

He plants a few fruit trees, and his cattle for-with destroy them. He "has no luck in raising fruit.

One half the little he raises is destroyed by his own or his neighbors' cattle.

His plough, harrow and other implements, lie all winter in the field were last used: and just as he is getting in a hurry, the next season, his plough breaks because it was not housed and properly cared for.

Somebody's hogs break in, and destroy his garden, because he had not stopped a hole in the fence, that he had been intending to stop for a week.

He is often in a great hurry, but will stop and talk as long as he can find any one to talk with.

He has, of course, little money; and when he must raise some to pay his taxes, &c., he raises it at a great sacrifice, in some way or other, by paying an enormous shave, or by selling his scanty crop when prices are low.

He is a year behind, instead of being a year ahead of his business—and always will be.

When he pays a debt, it is at the end of an execution; consequently his credit is at a low ebb.

He buys entirely on credit, and merchants and all others with whom he deals charge him twice or thrice the profit they charge prompt paymasters, and are unwilling to sell him goods at any cost. He has to beg and promise, and promise and beg, to get them on any terms. The merchants dread to see his wife come into their stores and the poor woman feels depressed and degraded.

The smoke begins to come out of his chimney late of a winter's morning, while his cattle are suffering for their morning's feed.

Manure lies in heaps in his stable; his horses are rough and uncured, and his harness trod under their feet.

His bars and gates are broken, his buildings unpainted, and the boards and shingles falling off—he has no time to replace them—the glass is out of the windows, and the holes stopped with rags and old hats.

He is a great borrower of his thrifty neighbor's implements, but never returns the borrowed article, and when it is sent for, it can't be found.

He is, in person, a great sloven, and never attends public worship or if he does occasionally do so, he comes sneaking in when the service is half over.

He neglects his accounts, and when his neighbor calls to settle with him has something else to attend to.

Take him all in all, he is a poor farmer, a poor husband, a poor father, a poor neighbour, and a poor Christian.

COAL ASHES.—The best purpose which coal ashes can be applied to in town or country is in making garden walks. If well laid down, no weeds or grass will grow, and by use they become as solid and more durable than brick.

CURING GRASS BY STEAM.

In this age of wonderful inventions and bold innovations of old customs, it will not do to pronounce any new project absurd or impracticable before trial. One of the latest "improvements" we have seen suggested in hay-making, is that of curing grass for hay—that is, discharging the water from it—by steam instead of the slow, imperfect process of drying it in the sun, often interrupted by rains, and the product injured or spoiled. A writer in the New York *Tribune* thus develops the new plan:—"If saturating grass with steam will have the effect, as we believe it will to cure it, so that an hour of sun will dry it, or so that it may be preserved with salt, it opens a new era in the use of steam for agricultural purposes. The process need not be a very expensive or laborious one. Let the grass be heaped up as fast as cut and covered with India rubber cloth. Then a pipe from a steam boiler, mounted upon a waggon, may be inserted under the center of the pile, and steam applied to a degree of heat strong enough to almost cook the whole heap; at any rate to prepare it for very rapid sun-drying. We believe, from some experiments which we have seen in drying other vegetable substances, that green clover may be prepared in three hours for safely stowing away in the barn. By using metal caps, instead of cloth, the process of steaming may be continued to a degree sufficient to expel all the moisture. Whether it can be economically used upon the farm, is the point which we wish to see settled, and that is what the agricultural societies should determine. Steam has already been applied to carry manure to the field, ploughing the ground, and thrashing the crop. No doubt it will be soon applied to sowing the seed and reaping, as well as mowing, and it only remains to cure the green grass as fast as cut, by the same powerful agent.

"This is not a chimera unworthy of thought. It is a subject which sooner or later will attract the serious attention of that portion of farmers who do think. Try it, if you please, on a small scale; take any succulent plant and subject it five minutes to steam, and then place it in the sun, and see how quick it will become as dry as well-cured hay. Apples, peaches, &c., can be dried by steam in one day. If grass cannot be cured by steam, let us know why.

"Will it be any more wonderful than it is now for a farmer to leave home at Buffalo in the morning and sell his crop the same day in New York—for him to get up in the morning and call for John to get out the mowing machine and small locomotive, and cut down that fifty-acre lot of clover to day, and tell George Henry to fire up the hay-maker and follow Alexander and William with the steam-raking machine, and cure that grass as fast as it is out, and I will come down with the four wagons, and let us see how much of that crop we can have safe in the barn before night. Peter!" "Yes, sir."