



"THE EARTH BEING MAN'S INHERITANCE, IT BEHOVETH HIM TO CULTIVATE IT PROPERLY."

Vol. I.

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THE FARMER'S MANUAL,

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THE FARMER'S MANUAL.

In our last, we promised to notice the manner in which buildings were erected and grain preserved in Great Britain and the United States. The practice of building barns and housing all the produce of a farm appears attended with great expense without any proportionate benefit. This obtains in almost every part of the United States and in this Province, but in England and Scotland a less expensive and more effectual method has been from necessity adopted.

Every one who has visited the United Kingdom will admit that the climate is not by any means so favorable for the preservation of grain as the climate of this Province, the changes are more frequent and more rapid than here—the damp atmosphere and the heavy rains which so often prevail during the winter season are all unfavorable to the preservation of crops; yet there it has been found from long experience, that any kind of crop which the land is capable of producing, when properly cured before building into stacks, will keep in better order than if placed under cover of a building. Several reasons have been given by writers who thoroughly investigated the subject, but the most important appears to be the saving of the expense which is incurred by the practice generally followed in this country. Instead of erecting barns in

every other field, it would be undoubtedly better to set apart a portion of land, well fenced in, adjoining the out-buildings, where oats, hay, barley and such like, could be built in stacks, and preserved until wanted for the ordinary consumption of the farm. It is a rule laid down by agriculturists that they will never separate the grain from the stalk until they are compelled to use the one or the other; and nothing but a very sudden and extraordinary rise of price will induce the good farmer to thrash out his grain faster than he can consume the straw.

There is a peculiarity in the manner of erecting out-buildings for farming purposes, which is steadily pursued in Scotland, and incorporated in many of their leases. The tenant is bound to erect buildings in a particular way, always having reference to shelter for the cattle. Instead of a long row of buildings, they are compelled by their landlords to erect them in an oblong square, the side unoccupied by buildings having, if possible, a southern aspect. The upper side of the square is generally occupied by the Barn or Threshing Mill, and on each side of the square the Stables and Byres (as they are usually called there) are situated. Every care is taken to preserve and incorporate with the manure all that the farm yard produces, and from having his crop and stock under his own eye the farmer is saved a very great deal of trouble. In this country where buildings are principally of wood there might be some objections urged against adopting this system, but the risk to the farmer, in case of fire, would not be more than it is at present.

We notice that the original design which stands at the head of the first page of this paper, drawn for us by T. E. WOOLFORD, Esquire, of this place, and stereotyped at the Boston Foundry, has been copied by the *British American Cultivator*, published in Toronto. We hope that the fourth volume, which has appeared in what we think a much improved shape, will be as successful as its spirited publishers could desire.