

AGRICULTURAL.

ON MANURES.

It being abundantly evident, to every skilful Farmer at least, that scarcity of manure is one of the chief drawbacks on our Agriculture, every practical farmer should therefore employ that degree of intelligence with which he may be endowed, in finding out ways and means of increasing this indispensable article. This too is the proper season of collecting materials for composting—such as peat moss, swamp mud, all vegetable and animal matter, sea mud intermixed with shells, coal and wood ashes, refuse lime, &c. &c. The time has not yet arrived when our farmers can afford lime as a manure; but we believe it is not far distant. If we had an Agricultural Society, its first object should be to get a lime work set agoing, at which lime might be got as cheap as in Britain or the United States; this would have an instantaneous and lasting effect on our agriculture, as that fossil seems well calculated to promote the fertility of our soil. As lime is yet beyond the reach of most of our farmers, except such as are fortunate enough to have it on their lands, we would recommend a search to be made for marl, which no doubt exists in large quantities in this section of the Province, and is an excellent substitute for lime. We give below some extracts on its properties.—EDITOR.

MARL consists of calcareous matter, clay, and sand, or some two of these earths, (of which lime or chalk is always one) in various proportions. The blue clay Marl is free from sand. Clay marl is also sometimes of a yellowish white, yellowish gray, or a brown or red cast. The shell marl seldom contains clay. In schistus or stone marl, sometimes sand and sometimes clay preponderates, generally the former. The sand marl, whether shell or schistus, should be applied to clays, and clay marls to sands. In both cases they correct the defects of the soil, by rendering it in the first, less adhesive; and, in the latter, less open and porous.

The earths are not the food of plants. They constitute the stomach, analogous to the stomach of animals, in which vegetable and animal matter is received, digested, and with the aid of the leaves (lungs) assimilated to animal chyle and blood.—The best soil for this digestive process is that in which the three above-named earths are suitably blended.

A sandy or gravelly soil is called hungry, because it digests rapidly, and dissipates the food committed to its bosom. Hence, green crops, or frequent manurings, are necessary to continue it healthy and productive. Such soils are defective in clay and calcareous matter. Their texture may therefore be improved, and their fertility increased, by the application of clay marl; or, what is the same, by clay and lime separately; though these materials are found most pure and best blended in the substance of marl. The quantity should be proportioned to the natural deficiency of these materials in the soil. From eight to one hundred loads per acre have been applied in one or two dressings; and their beneficial effects have been known to continue thirty years. All the sand soils of Norfolk, England, have been marled, (clayed)—Calcareous matter, combined with sulphuric acid (oil of vitriol) is usefully applied to soils in the form of gypsum, or Plaster of Paris, as is also powdered limestone and chalk, both calcareous. I am induced to believe that neither wheat nor sainfoin grass will thrive in a soil destitute of calcareous matter, which is the condition with most of our sands.

A stiff, moist clay, is called cold, and is unfriendly to the finer grasses as well as grains. Its texture is too compact to permit the roots to extend freely, and its temperature too cold to carry on the digestive process sufficiently rapid for the plants which grow upon its surface. Sand and lime, or silicious marl, loosen its texture, render it permeable to heat, &c. and powerfully assist to concoct the food of vegetables.

Marl may be known by the most ordinary observer. The application of mineral acid, and even of good vinegar, will cause an effervescence. This is the operation of the acid upon the lime. Its silicious and argillaceous properties may be ascertained by the sight and feeling, by the aid of water, or of glass.—Sand subsides or settles quicker than clay in a liquid; and will scratch glass, which clay will not.

It is a remarkable fact in the economy of nature, that the indigenous plants of every country are precisely those which are best adapted to furnish the proper sustenance to its animal population, and to satisfy its medicinal wants. So in regard to our soils;

every district generally affords the means of producing fertility. Hence the clay marls generally underlay sands; and shell and sand marls most abound in the neighbourhood of clays. And in addition to the variety of fossil substances which are calculated to increase fertility, every thing that grows upon the earth, every particle of animal and vegetable matter, is reduced to air and water by the chemical operations of nature, and in these forms become the food of new plants, to nourish animals. It is a truth calculated to teach humility, that the animal, the vegetable, and the putrid mass of dung, are found on chemical analysis to be very nearly alike, and that, in the natural order of things, they constantly nourish, feed, and produce each other.

[Further Remarks on this subject will be given in our next.]

FOR THE BEE.

ON SELECTING SEED.

No duty in the whole course of husbandry should be more carefully attended to than that of selecting seed. One rule that ought always to guide the farmer in his choice is, to select the best. The brevity of the present summer and early frosts have, to a very great extent, rendered the products of the soil not only unprofitable for consumption, but wholly unfit for seed. During the last few years, many losses have been sustained in the potatoe crops, in consequence of using unripe seed; and if the greatest care is not exercised in selecting and preserving seed for the next season, failures must inevitably follow, not only in potatoe fields but also in those sown with wheat, oats, and other white crops. Let the ripest seed that can be obtained be secured; and those individuals whose crops were injured by the early frosts, ought in no case to use the products of their own farms for seed, if they can possibly obtain seed of a better quality from their neighbors. That these hints may lead to attention on this subject is the desire of

MELVILLE.

October 14, 1836.

ROYAL OAK HOTEL.

THE SUBSCRIBER

BEGS to acquaint the Ladies and Gentlemen comprising the travelling Community, and the public in general, that through the solicitations of a number of his friends, he has taken the

ESTABLISHMENT

well known as the

ROYAL OAK HOTEL,

and fitted up the same in a style of neat and commodious arrangement, with a view to continue its usefulness in the line as formerly.

Disposed to afford comfort and accommodation to such as may favor him with their countenance, he asks of a generous public that share of patronage which he will by attention, endeavor to deserve.

WILLIAM ADAMSON.

Pictou, August 2d, 1836. 11 ps6

TO BE SOLD,

AT PUBLIC SALE,

At the house of George McLeod, Esq., Merigomish, on Thursday the 29th day of December, ensuing, at 12 o'clock, noon, that

EXCELLENT FARM,

situated on the second division of lands, Back Settlement, Knoydart, Gulf Shore, owned by the late Archibald McGillivray (John Vamey's son), deceased, containing upwards of 100 Acres, nearly square. The superior quality of the soil, the extensive improvements, and the good buildings attached, merit the attention of intending purchasers.

Terms liberal. For further particulars apply to

GEORGE McLEOD,

MICHAEL McDONALD. } Ex'rs.

JOHN MCGILLEVRAV. }

Gulf Shore, 25th September, 1836. cb-w

DR. KIRKWOOD

HAVING returned from Canada, again offers his services to his old friends, and the public generally, of Pictou and its vicinity; and hopes to deserve a continuance of their favour.

Residence at Mrs. Davison's.

N. B. Advice to the poor gratis.

{Pictou, 21st September, 1836.

ADMINISTRATION NOTICES.

ALL persons having any demands against the Estate of the late

JAMES SKINNER, M. D.

now deceased, are hereby required to render the same duly attested to, within eighteen Calendar months from the date hereof, at the Office of Henry Blackadar, Esquire, Barrister at Law; and all persons in any manner indebted to the said deceased, are requested to make immediate payment to

KEA. JNO. MCKENZIE, } Execu

JOHN HOLMES, } tors.

Pictou, 29th September, 1836. r-m

ALL persons having any demands against the Estate of

DONALD McDONALD, (Glenco,)

late of Scots Hill, in the District of Pictou, now deceased, are hereby required to render the same duly attested to, within eighteen Calendar months from the date hereof, at the Office of Henry Blackadar, Esquire, Barrister at Law, and all persons that are in any manner indebted to the said Estate are requested to make immediate payment

KEA. JNO. MCKENZIE, } Execu

PETER CRERAR, } tors.

Pictou, 29th September, 1836. r-m

ALL persons having any demands against the Estate of the late

ANGUS MCKAY,

of the East River of Pictou, deceased, are requested to present the same, duly attested, within eighteen calendar months from the date hereof; and all persons indebted to said estate are requested to make immediate payment to

WILLIAM SUTHERLAND } Ex'rs.

DONALD MCKAY, }

Sept'r 7, 1836. m-m

ALL persons having any just demands against the estate of the late

MARTIN McDONALD, SENIOR,

of Knoydart, in the Upper District of the County of Sydney, deceased, are requested to render the same within eighteen Calendar months from the date hereof; and all persons indebted unto said estate are desired to make immediate payment to

ALEXANDER McDONALD, } Adm'rs.

JOHN McDONALD, }

Upper District, County of Sydney, 21st July, 1836. 1f

ALL persons having any demands against the estate of the late

HUGH DENOON, Esq.,

of Pictou, will please present the same duly attested to the subscribers, for adjustment; and all persons indebted to the said estate, are requested to make immediate payment.

CATHARINE DENOON, Adm'x.

JAMES PRIMROSE, Adm'r.

Pictou, 22d April, 1836. 1f

ALL persons having any Legal Demands against the Estate of

ROBERT BROWN,

Blacksmith, late of Middle River, deceased, are hereby notified to render their accounts duly attested, to the subscribers within the space of eighteen calendar months from the date hereof; and all persons indebted to said estate, are requested to make immediate payment to

MARGARET BROWN, Adm'x.

THOMAS KERR, } Adm'rs.

THOMAS MCGOUL, }

4th November, 1835. ca-m

ALL persons having any demands against the Estate of the late

JESSEY LOGIE,

of Pictou, deceased, are requested to present the same, duly attested, within eighteen Calendar months from this date; and all persons indebted to said Estate are requested to make immediate payment to the subscriber, at Halifax.

PETER DONALDSON,

18th April, 1836. Administrator

J. JOHNSTON,

In addition to his former STOCK, has received

FROM LONDON,

A NEAT ASSORTMENT OF FIFES, FLUTES, AND OCTAVES,

which he offers for sale very low for cash.

Pictou, August 8. 1f