

Stump Machine Report.

Port Hope, June 24, 1872.

MESSRS. PLUMMER & SON, London.

GENTLEMEN:—I have sent by express to-day the amount of the account for the stump machine—say \$90.00; and for which you will please to send me a receipt for the amount. And I am happy to inform you that I like the machine very much; and I find that the two levers are a great improvement. The machine cost me \$12 to lay it down, and I did not receive it until the fourth of June, and since that she has pulled up 500 pine stumps.

Yours truly,
GEORGE MAXFIELD.**Sale of Short-Horns.**

The auction sale of Messrs. John Snell & Sons came off on Thursday last, at Edmonton, when fourteen cows and heifers and two bulls were disposed of at fair prices. Mr. R. A. Babbage, of Dubuque, Iowa, was the principal purchaser; he carrying off eleven of the sixteen animals sold. He bought Knight of the Lodge, bull calf, for \$200; three yearling heifers, 4th Duchess of Solway, Eugenie, and Bitter Sweet, for \$250 each; two 2-year heifers—Josephine for \$325, and Lady Gray for \$260; and five cows—2nd Duchess of Solway, for \$375; Welcome, for \$320; Tillie Courtney, for \$330; Emma and calf for \$460; and Maid of Laprairie, for \$270. Mr. W. T. Benson, of Edwardsburgh, bought Princess Louise, yearling heifer, for \$265; and Blanche, a 12-year cow, with her calf, for \$255. Mr. James Robson, Albion, bought 3rd Duchess of Solway, yearling heifer, for \$170. Mr. Robert Paterson, Owen Sound, bought Regina, a 12-year cow, for \$185. Mr. Lemon, of King, bought a 9-months' bull calf for \$100. The total amount of the sale was \$4,285.

We congratulate Messrs. Snell on the success of their truly patriotic undertaking. They have fairly gained an honorable name, not only for themselves, but also for Ontario, their adopted country. And with such men prosecuting their enterprise successfully, our Government thinks of entering into competition. They, too, (at least so they say) are to spend some thousands—we know not how many—in importing improved farm stock! We warn them against such a suicidal act.

A GREAT FARMER'S MAXIMS.

The successful life of Mr. Jacob Strawn, the prince of American farmers, he attributes to the close observance of the following maxims, originated by himself:—

When you wake do not roll over, but roll out. It will give time to ditch all your sloughs, break them, harrow them and sow them.

Make your fencing high, strong and tight, so that it will keep the cattle and pigs out.

If you have brush make your lot secure, and keep your hogs from cattle, for if the corn is kept clean they will eat it better than when it is not.

Be sure to get your hands to bed by seven o'clock—they will rise early by force of circumstances. Pay a hand, if he is a poor hand, all you promise him, if he is a good hand, pay a little more, it will encourage him to do still better.

Always feed your hands as well as you do yourself, for the laboring men are the bone and sinew of our land, and ought to be well treated.

I am satisfied that early rising, industry, and regular habits are the best medicines prescribed for health.

When rainy or bad weather comes so that you cannot work out of doors, cut, split and haul your wood.

Make your racks, fix your fences, or a gate that's off its hinges, or weatherboard your barn where the wind has blown the sidings off, or fasten the roof of your house.

See to your interests wisely, and do not spend your time in electing presidents, senators and other small officers, or talking of hard times when spending your time in whittling store boxes, &c.

Take your time and make calculations. Don't do things in a hurry, but do them at the right time, and keep your mind as well as your body employed.

Miscellaneous.

An American writer gives to his countrymen the following advice in very plain terms. There may be some good hints in it even for ourselves:—

HARD TIMES AND THE CAUSE.

We are fast becoming a nation of schemers to live without genuine work. Our boys are not learning trades; our farmers' sons are crowding into cities, looking for clerkships and post offices; hardly one American girl in one hundred will do housework for wages, however urgent her need; so we are sending to Europe for workmen, and buying of her artisans millions worth that we ought to make for ourselves.

Though our crop of rascals is heavy, we do not grow our own hemp; though we are overrun with lads who deserve flagellation, we import our willows.

Our women (unless deceived) wear European fabrics; our men dress in foreign clothes; the toys which amuse our younger children have generally reached us from over the sea.

Hence it is that we plunge deeper and deeper in debt to the Old World. We are like the farmer who hires his neighbor's sons to cut his wood, feed his stock and run his errands, while his own boys lounge at the grog-shop, playing billiards, and then wonders why, in spite of his best efforts, he sinks annually deeper and deeper into debt, till the sheriff cleans him out, and he starts West to begin again.

We must turn over a new leaf.

Our boys and girls must be taught to love labor by qualifying themselves to do it efficiently. We must turn out fewer professional men and more skilled artisans, as well as food growers. We must grow and fabricate two hundred millions worth per annum, that we now import, and so reduce the foreign debt that we have so long and successfully augmented year by year.

We must qualify our clever boys to erect and run factories, furnaces, rolling mills, tanneries, machine shops, etc., to open and work mines, improve and fashion implements, and double the present product of their father's farm. So shall we stem that tide of debt that sets steadily against our shores, and cease to be visited and annoyed by hard times.—*Exchange.*

GENERAL MANAGEMENT OF WINDOW GARDENS.

Indoor plants naturally require more care than those grown in the open air, for nature supplies all the needs of the latter; but the secrets of successful growth and profuse blooming in the house are enumerated in the following few essential rules of management:—

1st. Give them plenty of light during the day, and darkness with a cooler temperature at night.

2nd. A good supply of fresh air, when the sun shines brightest and warmest; in mild days the upper sashes may be lowered a little, and the cool air will blow over the plants instead of directly upon them.

3rd. Perfect cleanliness, which is very important, for if the plants are covered with dust they cannot grow, and will frequently die; their leaves are their lungs; frequent syringing will keep the leaves moist and clean.

4th. A proper amount of moisture; a dry atmosphere is fatal.

5th. A good compost or soil, in which their roots can luxuriate and send forth vigorous branches, leaves and flowers.

6th. Get good healthy plants to start out with; plants that have been blooming all through the summer, or for several months previous will not do well; new ones are best, or plants that were used the previous winter, and have rested during the summer, will also answer, but in general it is best to get new plants.

7th. Keep only a few plants; too many in the window will make close crowding; pots should never be set two or three deep on top of each other.

8th. A uniform temperature of 60° to 70° in the day time and 40° to 45° in the night, should be steadily maintained.

9th. Different places should be provided for different plants. A sunny window with a temperature of 45° to 50°, will suit roses, geraniums, &c., best; Begonias, Coleus, Cissus discolor, want a still warmer place of 60° to 70°, and yet but little or no sun light directly

upon them. On the other hand, Heliotropes, and Bouvardias want all the sun possible, with a temperature in the daytime of 60° to 75°.

BEANS FOR STOCK FEED.—A Canadian farmer says, although white beans are of no value for fattening stock, yet they are the best things that can be fed to young animals, as they contain the necessary materials for making bone and muscle. For a young colt, one pint of beans and oats crushed together will be found much better than oats alone. A neighbor of mine, a few years ago, fed his store ewes with a regular allowance of beans and peas crushed, during the winter, and as a consequence the next spring never lost a lamb. They were so strong that they were on their feet and tried to suck almost as soon as they were dropped.

—A husband pleaded to a libel for divorce on account of cruelty that his wife, the libellant, spoke harshly to him and threw pillows at him, which resulted in dyspepsia. Divorce granted.

Useful Recipes.

DRIED APPLE PIES.—Wash the apples in several waters, then put them into an earthen dish or stone pot, and pour on rather more water than will cover them, for if the apples are good they will absorb a good deal of water and become twice as large by soaking. Never soak or cook fruit in tin or iron. A few hours should soak the apple sufficiently for cooking. If soaked over night they become insipid. Put them into an earthen pipkin or porcelain kettle, and cook in the water they are soaked in. If you like it, cut up a little dried orange or lemon peel, and stew with the apples, but they make it too sharp for our taste. Let them cook slowly till very tender. When they rise in the kettle, press them down gently, but never stir them. When perfectly tender, before taking from the fire, stir in a little butter—about one tablespoonful to a quart of cooked apple—and sugar to suit your taste. Season with very little nutmeg and cinnamon, if you do not use the orange or lemon peel; nothing else is needed if you do. Bake with an upper and under crust, but do not make the pie very thick with apples. Half an inch deep is sufficient. Dried plums and peaches may be prepared in the same way, but require no spice.

TO CURL FEATHERS.—The ribs are scraped with a bit of glass, cut circularly, in order to render them pliant; and then, by drawing the edge of a blunt knife over the filaments, they assume the early form so much admired.

HARD GINGERBREAD.—Rub half a pound of butter into one pound of flour, then rub in half a pound of sugar, two table-spoonfuls of ginger, and a spoonful of rose-water; work it well; roll out and bake in flat pans in a moderate oven. It will take about half an hour to bake. This gingerbread will keep good some time.

GOOD WHITEWASH.—Take clean lumps of well burnt white lime, slackened; add to five gallons a quarter of a pound of whitening or burnt alum pulverised, half a pound of well boiled paste, and half a pound of cleanest glue, dissolved and boiled out in water. This may be put on cold indoors, but hot outside. It will be as brilliant as Plaster of Paris, and retain its brilliancy for many years.

PASTE THAT WILL KEEP A YEAR.—Dissolve a table-spoonful of alum in a quart of warm water, and when cold stir in as much flour as will make it as thick as cream—mixing the flour in a separate cup so that it will not be in lumps. Add as much powdered resin as will lie on a dime; and throw in a dozen cloves to give it a pleasant odor. Put a teacup of boiling water into a tin dish, and pour in the flour mixture. Boil for fifteen minutes; if cooked in another pan of boiling water it will be less likely to burn. Let it dry away, and when needed, dissolve a piece in a little boiling water.

Horticultural.**CAN LAND BE MADE TOO RICH?**

It can, in two respects. One is the loss of the interest in the investment; the other the disproportion between the soil proper and the manure added, the manure over-balancing it. Thus, in clear manure, crops cannot be raised. The exact proportion of manure in any soil, to give it its highest efficiency, it is difficult to determine. As soils differ so much, and as analysis is not satisfactory, test must be the reliance. An ordinary soil, long in use, principally by the plow, will bear a large amount of barnyard manure, which is the best that can be applied, as it contains all the ingredients of the plant. This mixed (of course thoroughly) with the soil, should be well rotted, so as to work more advantageously. If it makes the soil light, puffy, it will not do. Soil requires a certain degree of compactness, hugging the roots of the plant, and preventing its drying out. This is its mechanical quality, and is important. Having sufficient weight and compactness, we never have known land made too rich by barnyard or stable manure alone. In our practice with various amounts of manure of this kind, we have found this the experience. And this pays probably the best, as it gives the largest yields and the surest crops, with not an excess of manure, save only as it benefits the mechanical and other properties of the soil. Manure makes warm, attracts and retains moisture, mellows the soil, keeps it mellow so as to invite in the air, and prevents the frost from acting so severely; and such land, with good drainage below, passes off the surplus water more readily—hence it is the land to withstand both wet and the drought. All these are important properties, which the manure—barnyard manure—is the main agent in securing. Thus not only fertility is to be aimed at—there wants something considerable besides. It is not therefore a loss of interest to have a soil highly charged with manure, as high say as it will bear, a dove which to apply it would be no benefit but rather a hurt, the point to guide us being that there is a sufficient proportion of clay and sand to give that weight and compactness necessary to the best condition of growth. But this wealth should not be carried too deep—only as far as necessary to a full root bed. This in trees and shrubs of course will require more depth, but then also less wealth. So the grasses need comparatively a thin layer, a few inches sufficing. The grains require perhaps a little more. Corn will do better with more depth, as in the deeply rich soil of bottom land. The same is the case with clover and with root crops. Wheat will bear six to eight inches. The same soil will not do for grass and for trees, nor for grain and a root crop—not but that the grain would do well, but it would do equally well on less depth. The best root crop we ever knew was one of carrots, where rotten horse manure (a heavy coat) was turned down to the full capacity of the plow. The weight of the growth was fully reached and fed upon. Had the upper part of the land been equally enriched, there would doubtless have been a still better crop.

I have never experimented in this respect with concentrated fertilizers, such as hen dung, human excrements, bone dust, &c., but I presume with a well balanced basis of clay and sand, a large quantity may be used to advantage where the soil has been badly run and is in a low condition. The growth here could unquestionable be made immense, with coarse, puffy straw and light berry; but even if a maximum crop of good quality could be obtained the expense would be too great to make it a paying operation. It would take years to get the benefit, whereas less manure would doubtless have realized the same yield. Thus there is no loss of the use of a part of the manure, as in our deep, rich soils of the valleys, which have depth enough to make several equal spreads of rich soil.

The rule as to the degree of fertility should be the greatest yield, quality being good. This necessarily requires a surplus over what is wanted for one or several crops. This is wanted to keep good the mechanical and other conditions of the soil. The point is to keep at the surface or where the roots are, and not waste by burying below. The proper texture (weight and compactness,) and a full maximum yield of good quality, should be the additional points held in view. Then whatever manure is applied will be of use immediately, and will work to advantage; there is nothing dead or dormant.

A test as to whether a soil has attained its highest efficiency will be found in the application of a special manure, such as bone dust for instance, ashes or lime, or any one or more soil ingredients. If these have an effect, it shows the soil has not yet reached its highest point of fertility. But in this test, all the necessary constituents of a properly balanced soil must be present. If all are present and to the full extent, any special manure will fail in augmenting the crop; it will rather hurt it.—*F. G. in Country Gentleman.*