

Miscellaneous.

BREADSTUFFS.

The shipments of wheat and flour for the four weeks ended August 30, reached 5,500 tons. This brings the total exports for the year up to close upon 147,000 tons, which will leave about 30,000 tons on hand to meet purchasing requirements to the end of the year.

SALT AS A FERTILIZER.

Mr. A. H. Moll, of Greenfield, and D. H. Whitney, of Lincoln, in Monroe county, Wisconsin, have both experienced some in the use of common salt as a fertilizer, and in every trial it has proved to be of great power and utility.

Mr. Moll had fenced and undertook to cultivate a piece of ground that had been occupied for some years as a public wagon road, but was not able to raise grain on it of any amount. He took a barrel of meat brine, reduced it three to one with water, and sprinkled it over the land, and ever since it has produced very heavy crops.

OPEN DRAINS IN FIELDS.

There are few countries that need draining more than many sections in the West. The inconvenience of the usual ditches with steep sides, and the unsightly banks, have deterred many persons from forming them, and the system of under draining, on the other hand, except near the large towns and cities, where land very valuable, is out of the question on account of the expense.

These ditches need not be straight, but many follow the general full of the fields, Spring and early Summer while the earth is saturated with water is undoubtedly the best time to take out the lines, unless the farmer be able to employ the services of a practical engineer for the purpose.

If the sides of the ditch slope away at an angle of 45°, the width of the ditch at the top will be twice the depth, the bottom of it being a point. Therefore, for a ditch two feet deep, the surface should be four feet wide. This will be found deep enough for any surface drainage; in fact from fifteen to twenty inches in depth, is deep enough for any ordinary surface drainage; indeed a ditch twelve inches deep, if kept clean, will do wonders in this respect if the decline be uniform.

Stake out the ditch in the line of uniform descent, then plow a number of furrows according to the depth of the ditch, making the dead fall where the centre of the ditch is to be. Then with the scraper commence to scrape the earth from the centre to the side, commence at the lower end of the drain, so that if heavy rains intervene the water from above will have free passage. Proceed with the other side the same way, always spread the earth over the surface of the land; or, better, fill up low places that may be observed. Continue to plow and scrape narrower and narrower each time, until at last the required depth having been reached, the ditch will present the following appearance:

If a rise of six inches to the foot is decided on, and this grade is preferable when the dead furrows of the land are to run to the ditches, the top of the ditch must be four feet for every foot in depth. In making

these ditches, the man and team should back up, only going forward when drawing out the earth; unless the material is to be moved some distance, say two or three rods.

In making ditches and grading roads, many teamsters become impatient and needlessly worry themselves and teams. The first thing is to teach the team just what you want of them, and while doing so, they should not be needlessly hurried. Their movements must be necessarily slow, but the quantity of work that may be done in a day, and the slightness of cost compared with ditches dug by hand are surprising. When finished, the plowing may be continued with care to the very edge; and thus a system of drainage may be induced that will render fields capable of being plowed fully a week or ten days sooner than could otherwise be accomplished.

EVAPORATION ON THE FARM.

It is supposed that a considerable portion of rain that falls—from one third to one half, perhaps—is filtered through the soil. After having discharged its duties in the soil, it must not any longer remain there. It must find an outlet, mingle again with the immense atmospheric ocean, and thus become energized for future work. Now, if the soil be a porous one, the water will pass gradually through it, constantly yielding all its beneficial influence to the plants which stand in the soil. On the contrary, if the soil is a compact one, the water will stand too near the surface; evaporation will be excessive, and the ground will be cold and unfruitful. Another matter is worthy of consideration. The evaporation from our fields not only draws away their moisture, but takes with it the carbonic acid gas, ammonia, sulphur, and phosphorus, in some degree. These cases combine with the air as they arise from the earth, so that breathing the air about us, sometimes brings painful diseases, or proves fatal.

FATTENING THE SOIL.

As agricultural career on a good scale, carried out generally on the best practised systems adopted by the successful farmers in the most enlightened districts in this or any other country is one to be admired and brings honor and renown to the agriculturist. Management, in every respect, should be such as to make certain of not losing any of the fertility in the soil; and a thorough sound minded farmer will endeavor to fetch up to the highest pitch of capability to produce crops every field and every acre in his possession. A clever agriculturist understands the way to enrich his soil without wasting his crops to do it and without allowing his land to lie idle. While a certain class of men plow under clover, let half their meadow grass rot on the ground and cut up into chaff inferior fodder of various kinds and feed their cattle thereon in the winter, he increases his herd and flocks, and when the price of beef, mutton, etc., warrants it, buys rich food, oil cake, etc., making a profit on that, and by eating the clover and grass his smart (?) neighbors waste, and giving the food mentioned in addition, produces such a strong fertilizing manure that the land to a state of fatness which gives immense crops in return.

Cattle and sheep, the latter especially, are necessary for successful farming; the feeding of the land the sheep and, cows is of the utmost consequence; for fat land is a necessity to prosperity, while poor soil is ruin and starvation. It is this neglect to fatten the land which causes all the complaints wailed forth in print; and the stopping of the pangs of hunger of fields which have received no meal for years, by giving them their own raw productions to eat, such as plowing in clover or leaving crops of grass on meadows to rot, is sometimes like keeping a herd of swine and allaying hunger and attempting to fatten them up by feeding with their produce of young pigs! Give the swine abundance of everything to make them fruitful, and they will increase and multiply beyond the belief of those who have only been accustomed to the poverty kind of animals, supplying funds in abundance by marketing the surplus. Get the land in such condition that it will increase and multiply its produce, and the animals bred and fattened on the production will daily and hourly feed the ground which has had its appetite sharpened by the withdrawals of the where-with to grow the crop. The live stock fattens the land with solid and liquid food in a direct manner, when grazing or otherwise consuming the crops on the soil where grown, and the return is in proportion

to what there is supplied; consequently, when oil cake or any rich food is given in addition to what the soil brings forth, there is corresponding fatness and increased produce, which explains how some men prosper while others fail in trying to do so by extracting everything possible from everybody and every substance regardless of the laws of nature and the common sense so few pay any attention to.

Recipes.

TO REMOVE CRICKETS.

Put a little chloride of lime and powdered tobacco in their holes.

TO RENDER BOOTS WATERPROOF

Take—boiled oil, sixteen parts; turpentine (spt.), two parts; bees-wax, one part; resin, one part. Turpentine (Venice,) two parts. Melt, and use hot.

METHOD OF PREVENTING COLD FEET AT BED-TIME.

Draw off your stockings just before undressing, and rub your ankles and feet well with your hand, as hard as you can bear the pressure, for five or ten minutes, and you will never have to complain of cold feet in bed. It is hardly conceivable what a pleasurable glow this diffuses. Frequent washing of the feet, and rubbing them thoroughly dry with a linen cloth or flannel, is very useful.

TEA.

Somebody, who professes to speak from long experience, avers that the leave of the raspberry if properly treated, make finer tea than any that finds its way to Mincing Lane. The french pheasants make an aromatic drink from the leaves of the black-currant tree, and believe it to be a specific for indigestion. Thanks to Mr. Raspail, they have also learned to appreciate the flavor, aroma, and virtue of borage tea. Our dietetic philosopher and friend, Pin Bee, would like to do in England what M. Raspail did in France, but knowing the inveterate suspicion the poorer classes at home have of anything to which they are unaccustomed especially if it costs little, directly declines making this experiment himself. 'Let any social doctor,' says he 'who may be anxious to test the liability of the English agricultural laborer as a pupil, accost him with the following proposition: 'My good man, I have, I assure you, from the bottom of my heart the liveliest interest in your welfare. Now, the tea you drink is detestably adulterated, and very dear stuff. It does you no good; now, take my advice—grow borage, which will cost you nothing, and drink borage tea; it helps digestion, is a sub-orific, has a delightful aroma, and will have no effect on your nerves, or the nerves of your wife. I am lost in conjectures as to the fate that would befall the doctor. He might be bonneted, elbowed into a thorn-hedge, reminded that the horse pond is near or recommended to confine his attention to his own tea-cup. But the unlikeliest result of all would be thanks for the suggestion. No the unlikeliest would be the trial of it.'—Chamber's Journal.

The Produce Market.

Advices from England report markets firm, the weather remarkably fine for the season, and favorable for planting both at home and abroad. This fact is expected to exert considerable influence on the course of prices during the coming months, and if no real scarcity of grain is to be apprehended may help to prevent the rise which in some quarters is now anticipated. Supplies of home-grown wheat have been light, and of foreign moderate, but numerous cargoes have arrived off the coast, principally from America.

Toronto.—Market quiet but steady, both in trade and in prices. Prices have been firm, being strengthened by a rise of 6d. on flour, 2d. on red wheat, 4d. on red winter, 3d. on white and club and 9d. on corn in the English market. Our stocks continue to increase, those of flour being double and of wheat quadruple those held at the same time last year; and stocks at Montreal show a still larger increase, amounting to 74,800 bushels of wheat and 89,000 barrels of flour, against 175,000 and 39,000 last year.

Wheat—Fall, No. 1, \$1.23; spring, \$1.13 to \$1.18. Flour—Extra, \$5.62 to \$5.65; spring wheat flour extra, \$5.25. Oats—Street prices, 30c to 40c; by the car load, 38c to 39c. Barley—On the street prices have advanced to \$1.23 to \$1.24. Peas—60c to 63c. Potatoes—Prices are firm at 65 to 75c per bag.

Chicago Markets.

Chicago.—Flour, demand light; holders firm. Wheat unsettled and closed firm; No. 1 spring \$1.17; No. 2 spring \$1.14; spot; No. 3 spring \$1.11; rejected \$1.03 to \$1.04. Corn steady; No. 2 mixed 52½c to 54c cash; rejected 51c to 51½c; new 48c to 49c. Oats advanced and in fair demand; No. 2 37½c to 38c; rejected 35c to 35½c. Rye dull and drooping; No. 2 75c to 75½c. Barley dull and lower; No. 2 fall \$1.33; No. 3 spring steady at \$1.04 to \$1.05.

London Markets.

Red wheat, \$1.10 to \$1.15; white wheat, \$1.18 to \$1.25; spring wheat \$1.13 to \$1.17; barley, \$1.10 to \$1.15; oats, 36 to 39c; peas, 53 to 58c; corn, 55 to 62c; buckwheat 52c. Potatoes, 70 to 80c per bush; apples, 49 to 80c; turnips, 20 to 25c; hay, \$14 to \$16. Dressed hogs, from \$5.50 to \$6.12½; beef, from \$3.50 to \$5.75 per cwt.

New York Markets.

Flour dull, 5c to 20c lower; receipts, 9,000 bbls; sales, 2,000 bbls; \$5.75 to \$6.35 for superfine State and western; \$6.75 to \$7.65 for common to good extra State. Rye flour steady and quiet. Wheat quiet and unchanged; receipts 144,000 bush; sales 35,000 bush, at \$1.56 for No. 2 Chicago. Rye dull. Corn quiet, without decided change; receipts, 20,300; bushels; sales 31,000 bushels; 78½c to 79c for western mixed ashore. Barley quiet; receipts, 5,000; sales none. Oats firmer; receipts 45,156 bush; sales 24,000 bush, at 55c to 56c for new western mixed; 58c to 59c for white do; —c to —c for black do. Pork firm; \$16 for new mess. Lard firm; 8½c to —c for steam. Butter 52c to 36c. Cheese, 13½c to 14c.

Buffalo Live Stock Market.

Buffalo.—Sales of 400 Ohio steers, ranging from 1,088 to 1,446 lbs, at \$4.37½ to \$6; 42 Illinois steers, ranging from 1,326 to 1,456 lbs, at \$4.37 to \$5.89; 190 Texas steers, ranging from 1,084 to 1,086 lbs, at \$4.50; 250 Indiana steers, ranging from 1,086 to 1,258 lbs, at \$4.50 to \$5.37½; 100 Michigan steers, ranging from 990 to 1,202 lbs, at \$3.50 to \$4.75. Sheep and Lambs—The market was active at 12½c decline on all grades. Sales of 1,600 Michigan sheep, ranging from 78 to 93 lbs, at \$4.35 to \$5; 200 Ohio sheep, averaging 80 lbs, at \$4.50. Hogs—The market was dull and slow at 20c decline from yesterday. Yorkers at \$5 to \$5.19; heavy hogs at \$5.20 to \$5.30.

BREAKFAST.—EPPE'S COCOA.—GRATEFUL AND COMFORTING.—"By a thorough knowledge of the natural laws, which govern the operations of digestion and nutrition, and by a careful application of the fine properties of well selected cocoa, Mr. Epps has provided our breakfast tables with a delicately flavored beverage which may save us many heavy doctor's bills."—Civil Service Gazette. Made simply with Boiling Water or Milk. Each packet is labelled—"James Epps & Co., Homoeopathic Chemists, London." Also, makers of Epps's Milky Cocoa (Cocoa and Condensed Milk). 72-1-v

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London, Ont., 23rd Oct., 1873. Notice is hereby given, that the Board of Directors have this day declared an assessment of 50 per cent, payable on or before the first day of January, 1874, to be levied on all Premium Notes embraced between Policy No. 70,476 and No. 73,389 inclusive. The assessment this year is at the same rate as for many years past, and experience justifies the belief that this rate will never be exceeded. By order of the Board. D. C. MACDONALD, Secretary.

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