

PLOUGHING-IN TURNIPS FOR MANURE.—"P. Murlson" writes:—"I would like to know if ploughing-in a turnip crop, half grown, is a good plan for manuring ground? I generally take in the turnips themselves, and plough in the leaves. Which is the best?"

Ans.—If you have cattle to consume the roots, the latter is clearly the more judicious course.

TRANSMISSION OF GRAIN.—A Malvern correspondent has favoured us with a communication on this subject. The "curious phenomenon" related by Elihu Burritt, has already been discussed in the pages of this journal, as our correspondent will observe if he refers to Vol. II., p. 90. As the present communication neither contains any new idea, nor diffuses any additional light on the subject, it would serve no useful purpose to publish it.

GRAPE CULTURE.—"J. K." writes as follows:—"I should take it as a particular favour if one of your late correspondents on Grape Culture, Mr. W. S., of Woburn, would have the kindness to state through the medium of THE FARMER whether he still adheres to the system of training and fruiting, which he described in the fifth and six numbers of the first volume of your paper, viz., his 'single stem dwarf and renewal system,' and whether he still recommends it as one of the best modes for our climate?"

MILLER'S TICK DESTROYER.—"A Reader," of Walford, makes the following enquiry:—"Will you, or some of your numerous readers, inform me, through the columns of your valuable paper, if Miller's Tick Destroyer for Sheep has proved beneficial?"

Ans.—The preparation to which you allude is decidedly the most effective tick destroyer before the public at the present day. It has been thoroughly tested by flock-masters of our acquaintance, and in every instance the result has been highly satisfactory.

SAWDUST AS LITTER.—"Julius," of Newton Brook, writes as follows:—"My father has a saw-mill about a mile from the farm-yard, and he has not a large quantity of straw. Would it pay to haul it to the yard, as much of the liquid manure is lost for the want of some absorbent? Is sawdust of any use as a manure?"

Ans.—The course you propose is highly judicious. Sawdust is extensively used in Britain as a substitute for litter, and being an excellent absorbent of ammonia, it afterwards forms a valuable manure.

WHAT NEXT.—The verdant communication which we append is from a "W. E. R." of Asphodel:—"The following simple and at the same time most effectual remedy for 'Bellyache' in horses, may, perhaps, not be deemed unworthy of a corner in the columns of your valuable paper. I obtained the prescription from an intelligent and practical farmer in this neighbourhood, and it is considered by him an infallible cure. It is as follows:—Take about a 'thumbful' of common salt, and grind or bruise it to a fine powder; then, with a goose-quill or other small tube 'puff' smartly a portion of it, first into one eye, and then into the other, of the horse affected, and in from 15 to 20 minutes a certain cure will be the result, no matter how severe the attack. The eye of the horse is not at all injured by the application."

Ans.—Will "W. E. R." please try a practical illustration of his "effectual remedy for Bellyache" on his own eyes, and report the same to us at his convenience? The experiment might also be repeated with advantage on the optics of the intelligent (?) farmer, who considers it such an infallible cure.

BOOKS ON ENTOMOLOGY.—"A. S. C.," writing from Brewer's Mills, County of Frontenac, desires to know (1) whether there is any book to be had in Toronto that would give the names of the Canadian Insects. (2) Can any person who wishes to study entomology become a member of the Entomological Society of Canada?"

Ans.—The best book on Canadian (as well as American) Insects that we can recommend is "Harris' Insects Injurious to Vegetation," a new edition, edited by Charles L. Flint, Secretary to the Massachusetts Board of Agriculture, with eight large coloured engravings, and 278 wood-cuts; published by Messrs. Crosby & Nichols, Boston, U.S. This handsome

volume, which can be procured through any bookseller in Toronto, is well worth its cost to any one who desires to investigate and learn something about the insects of this country. A cheaper and more elementary work, but one not to be compared to the above mentioned, is "Jaeger's Life of North American Insects," published by Harper & Bros., New York; it is illustrated by a few inferior wood-cuts, but may be useful to a beginner in entomology.

2. Any one interested in the study of insects can become a member of the Entomological Society of Canada, by being properly proposed at a regular meeting, and afterwards elected. Any information desired respecting the Society can be obtained on application, by letter or otherwise, to the Secretary, the Rev. C. J. S. Bethune, Cobourg, C. W.

OBSTRUCTION IN COW'S TEATS.—"J. W. B.," of Oxford Mills, writes:—"For a number of years, I have noticed a little kernal or lump obstructing the passage in cow's teats. This spring I have seen several of them. They seem to be about the size and shape of a kernal of Indian corn; and they locate themselves about two-thirds of the way up the teat. In some cases they entirely close up the passage, and the cow is thereby deprived of the use of the teat. Do you know of any remedy?"

Ans.—The little tumours referred to by our correspondent are not uncommon, and often prove very troublesome. They arise, in most cases, from rough handling of the teat in milking, but are often seen in young cows at their first calving. In most cases it consists of a scirrhous thickening of the membrane lining the teat, and in others, the formation of a glistly tumour, sometimes not larger than a pea, and sometimes filling up the duct completely, and extending downward to within an inch of the end of the teat, producing partial or complete obstruction.

They are in general very difficult of removal, and often produce a "blind teat." They are best treated by passing up a teat bistoury, and dividing the substance, then by inserting a silver teat syphon to draw the milk off,—this way be either left constantly in, properly secured, or used three or four times a day as long as it is needed.

The Canada Farmer.

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Horticultural Enterprise in the United States and Canada.

No one can even glance through the columns of the rural journals published in the United States, without being struck with the evidence they furnish as to the activity of mind and business energy which are being put forth in the department of horticulture. Floral novelties, new fruit seedlings or hybrids, ornamental shrubs, for which distant parts of the earth have been ransacked, rare seeds and choice bulbs never before heard of, are constantly pressing into notice; and while, of course, many of them are mere pretenders to excellence, and trumpeted forth for money-making purposes, it cannot be gainsayed that we have obtained some very valuable horticultural acquisitions from our neighbours across the lines. In strawberries and grapes alone, American horticulturists have greatly distinguished themselves. Of the former, it is only necessary to name Wilson's Albany Seedling, a treasure of untold value to the gardeners, professional and amateur, of this continent. A little acid, it has nevertheless qualities which place it immeasurably in advance of all competitors thus far. Yet this magnificent berry will doubtless, ere long, be surpassed by some of the seedlings which enthusiastic horticulturists are testing in their grounds. Of grapes, we have several most valuable varieties. The originator of the Concord, Mr. Ball of Concord, Mass., has lived to see his vine planted by millions from Maine to Minnesota. Dr. Grant, of New York, and Mr. Rogers, of Salem, Mass., have also achieved important triumphs in grape seedlings and hybrids. The grape for America has, however, yet to be produced,—if, indeed, our fellow countryman, Mr. Arnold

of Paris, has not already accomplished what so many have long been aiming at—the combination of the luscious flavour of a glass-grown grape, with the hardiness of an out-door vine. Hon. M. P. Wilder, of Boston, Mass.—very high authority—in a letter that we have seen, expresses the opinion that Mr. Arnold's will prove the grape of this continent, and that posterity will cherish the name and bless the memory of its originator. To all which we artfully respond, "So mote it be!" When it is considered that thousands of seedlings must be grown and tested ere a single variety worth anything is obtained, and also that the process of hybridizing is a very slow and difficult one, some idea will be formed of the amount of thought and labour necessary to the production of any real acquisition to our horticultural treasures. While our American neighbours are busily engaged in the search for novelties and improvements in the regions of floral and shrub beauty, they are especially diligent in the realm of fruit. They have produced apples, pears, peaches, plums and cherries, that leave nothing further to be desired. In the department of small fruits, they have been very assiduous, and have succeeded in obtaining a gooseberry that defies the mildew, that bane of imported gooseberries,—some valuable raspberries, the Rochelle and Kittatimy, the former a great success in all the Midland States, and the latter hardly enough for the most northerly situations. It is questionable if any country on earth be better supplied with fruit in variety and succession than is the United States at the present time.

These brilliant successes would not have been achieved but for the existence, in pretty considerable development, of horticultural tastes among the people. There has been a healthy demand for everything really valuable, whether it be for ornament or use. Eminently a practical people, the Americans are nevertheless an æsthetic people. They are often extravagant in their outlays for matters of taste, ornament and display. They cultivate the beautiful, in dress, furniture, and the surroundings of their homes. Were there not a demand for the expensive novelties we see continually advertised in their agricultural and horticultural journals, they would not be offered. A seed of the Victoria Regia for one dollar—a fine lily bulb newly from Japan for eight dollars,—a Yeddo grape vine also from Japan for ten dollars, a new gladiolus bulb or dahlia tuber at three or five dollars, a new species of spruce seed three dollars per ounce,—are specimens of advertisements by no means rarely to be found in the journals referred to. The large scale on which some things are raised and sold cannot fail to attract attention. Grape-cuttings are sold by the million, cranberry vines by the barrel, and a nursery of two or three hundred acres in extent is not uncommon. As for the sales of such common nursery articles as apple, pear, plum, and cherry trees, they are past enumeration.

Is the rage for these things excessive and reprehensible? We are not prepared to say that it is. Of all extravagance that can be possibly be committed, surely there is none so excusable as that which is expended on the beautiful and useful things of nature. Condemn, if you please, costly dressing, flashy jewelry, splendid equipage, expensive cookery, and lavish architecture,—but respect the eagerness to collect and plant about one's house the lovely and valuable creations of God,—the flowers and fruits that declare his glory and show forth his handy-work.

We in Canada need no checking in this direction, but rather urging. We have thousands of rural homes that haven't a beautiful thing in all their surroundings, except the landscape and the sky. Many a farm has no fruit upon it except a few strawberries on the edge of the woods, a straggling patch or two of raspberries in the fence corners, or may-hap a few huckleberry bushes in some neglected spot. Our nurserymen are very poorly encouraged. Any travelling irresponsible pedlar of fruit trees is patronized before well-known persons who have a stake in the