



The Field.

A Bean Experiment.

I read with much interest in your valuable paper of March 5th, the statements of Christy Greggs, Horace H. Runnels, and others of Deering, in relation to farm crops the past season. Believing that farmers may profit by each other's experience, I will send the result of an experiment with a crop of white beans.

I measured off with chain one-fourth of an acre from ground broken in April—harrowed the ground and planted with white pea beans, the 3rd day of June, in rows three feet apart, put in each hill about one-third of a shovel of muck that had been taken from the meadow a year before and thoroughly saturated with chamber-lye the fall previous to using. About one cord of muck was used on forty square rods, and no other dressing was put upon the land. Six or seven beans were dropped in a hill. Hoed once, running the cultivator between the rows at the time of hoeing. The soil a light deep loam, inclined to sandy.

Yield, five and a half bushels of plump, perfect beans, which I sold for three dollars a bushel, amounting to \$15 50.

I estimate the cost of cultivation as follows:

Ploughing and harrowing ground,.....	\$1 00
Manure,.....	3 00
Interest on the land,.....	1 00
Planting, hoeing and harvesting,.....	3 50
Total,.....	\$8 50

Deduct the cost of cultivation from the price for which the beans sold, and it leaves a net profit of \$7 for the 40 square rods, or \$28 per acre.—*Cor. Journal of Agriculture.*

Only a Little Frolic.

We met a farmer friend the other day who casually remarked that he should soon commence cutting his wheat. We asked him how much he had to harvest? "About seventy-five acres," he replied. Seventy-five acres of wheat to be cut, bound, and shocked we thought or tried to think, for we could not grasp the whole idea at once. And then the memory of

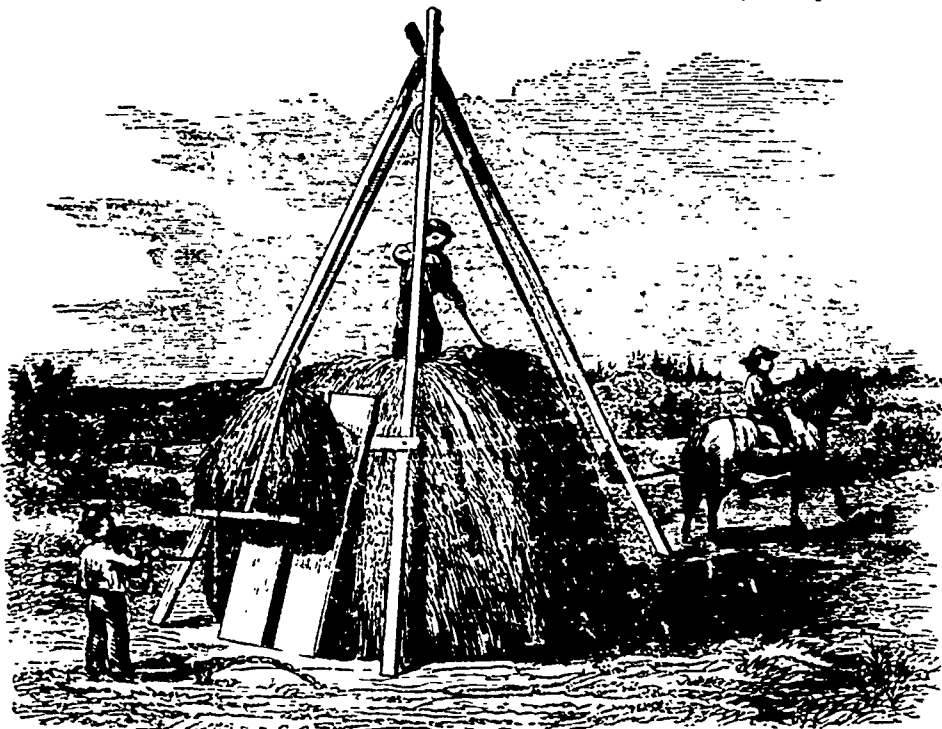
our younger days came over us, when the matter of harvesting ten or fifteen acres of grain was the great event of the season, so we involuntarily exclaimed "Seventy-five acres? Prodigious!" "What a job!" "Job," replied our friend, looking at us with a clear suspicion that we had been dreaming. "Job" Nonsense cut it all down in four or five days only a little frolic."

Oh, ye Balls, and Buckeyes, and Kirbys and McCormicks, how much of the romance as well as the toils of harvesting you have obliterated, changing the whole into a "little frolic."—*Sorgho Journal.*

Are not Dung-Heaps Unnecessary?

Most decidedly so, except under particular circumstances. I have now had the experience of several years, during which the bulk of my manure has been taken from under the animals in the covered sheds, and at once applied to the soil. The resulting crops give unmistakable evidence of the correctness of this practice. If fermentation is so necessary in a dung heap, why does the sheep-fold act so well without it? My custom is as follows: Our straw is cut up by steam power into 2-inch lengths. The action of cutting

splits most of it, so that the spongy inside of the straw is at once rendered available to absorb the urine. The outside of the straw we all know is glass, and impervious to moisture. The cut straw is applied as litter from day to day care being taken not to use more than will get thoroughly saturated and intermixed with the solid manure—in fact, enough to keep the animals clean. If you put in too much it will heat and ruin the health of your stock. It is trodden, when so intermixed, into a sort of lodg-podge, which, when applied to the soil, will beat the best guano ever used in the production of crops, and in the matter of profit. The manure is allowed to accumulate under the animals for a month or two, according to the temperature of the season. In winter it may remain long in the summer or warm



Stacking Hay by Horse Power.

We have had enquiries as to whether the horse pitchfork can be made useful in the field as well as in the barn in unloading and stacking hay. The above engraving represents a very simple and convenient contrivance for lifting hay, by the use of any of the horse pitchforks, and a three legged derrick with rope and blocks. A board-slide is fixed to keep the hay from rubbing against the stack as it goes up. The feet of the derrick require to be sharpened, so that they will keep their place in the ground firmly. The hay may either be brought to the stack on a waggon, or by means of the hay sweep, of which we gave two engravings on the first page of our twelfth issue. Our engraving explains the operation better than a lengthened verbal description could do, and though haying is past for the present season, many of our readers may find this illustration useful in enabling them to make preparations that will lighten their labours in the hay-field another year.

months you must remove it more frequently, having a watchful eye to the heat of the mass and to the comfort of the animals. If the manure is too warm, it takes the animals off their feed and endangers their lungs, much as a pig gets the heaves or lung disease by lying on hot dung, and then becoming exposed to atmospheric change. When the manure is removed it is completely saturated, so much so that my practical neighbour says: "Mr. Mechi, your dung, although made under cover, is much more wet than ours, which is exposed to rain and the water from buildings."

It is highly desirable that this manure, when taken out from the sheds, should be at once carried to, and spread on, the land; for being so amply saturated it can take up no more moisture, and therefore a shower of rain washes the soluble portions out of it. If we have no land ready, we place it close to our great tank, so that any washing from it goes into the tank, and is thus economised. The floors of my sheds are all, of course, well brick paved. In farm yards the