

Miscellaneous

Poor Practices.

It is a pretty poor practice for a farmer to dig and delve, tug and grub, and clear up fifty acres of land at a cost of \$2,000, and then in the third year surrender about a fifth of it to briars, brambles, and ox-eye daisies.

Poor practice to half manure, half plough, half seed and half cultivate a field, and then harvest from it less than half a crop.

To keep two inferior, scrawny, scrub cows for daily purposes, that give less milk than one good one, and consume more food than three.

To purchase in town five hundred loads of livery-stable manure, and suffer six hundred of better home-made material to run to waste.

To attempt to fatten three hogs into twelve hundred pounds of pork on just so much feed as would keep two nicely growing.

To estimate agricultural fairs as arrant humbugs, and spend three days every month saving the country at political meetings.

To depend on borrowing your neighbours' rakes, reapers, mowers, and all sorts of implements in haying and harvest time.

To house up a thousand bushels of grain, waiting for a rise, till one-tenth has gone to feed rats and mice, and the remainder smells like the essence of rat, and the price is down 40 per cent.

To plant out a big orchard of choice fruit trees with a first thought of money-making, and leave them to do or die.

To keep two fancy five hundred dollar carriage horses, and pay six dollars a day for a team to plough.

It is positively poor practice to call "book larnin" all bosh, to ignore news and agricultural papers, and attempt to keep up an even yoke with your progressive neighbours by main strength and stupidity. -Sat. Eve. Post.

AN OLD HYMN IN A NEW DRESS.—At the Vermont State Fair, a rural poet furnished the Record with the following lines:—

This world is all a cattle show, For man's amusement given; Some cry gee, and some cry whoat And some go fast, and some go slow; Thus back and forward driven.

A CURIOSITY.—One of the most curious instruments of late years is a little wooden barometer invented by a Mexican guitar maker, a few years since. It consists only of a strip of cedar, very thin, about two and a half feet in length, about an inch wide, cut with the grain, set in a block or fort. This cedar strip is backed or lined with one of white pine cut across the grain, and the two are tightly glued together. To bend these when dry is to snap them, but on the approach of bad weather the cedar curls over until at times it touches the ground. It is said this simple instrument will indicate the coming of a "norther" full twenty-four hours before any other kind of barometer known on the coast. The philosophy of the thing seems to be that the pine dries and contracts under the influence of fair weather, and curls over on its side; while in foul weather, swelling and expanding, its motion is towards the other side, the cedar yielding to the pressure, because cut with the grain, and is not susceptible to the influence of dryness or humidity of atmosphere.

SOUR GRAPES.—A friend related to us one morning a scene in a school-room which we think will do to publish and is too good to keep. It is the custom in the school to read a moral lesson each morning, when the teacher questions the scholars on what has been read. The day our friend visited the school the lesson was in regard to the taking of fruit, and was a sort of narrative in which it was stated a teacher had told his class not to touch the fruit which grew in a neighbouring orchard, but to wait until it was perfectly ripe and they all should have a share of it. They all disobeyed the command with the exception of one little girl, she alone refraining from touching the fruit. The first question asked by the teacher was:—

"Who did right, the little girl or the others of the class?"

"The little girl."

The next question was:—"Why did not the little girl also take the fruit?"

This appeared to puzzle the class, and for a long time no one was ready to answer. At length a little fellow at the bottom of the class held up his hand, which was equivalent to saying that he could give the answer. He was told to proceed, when he astonished the teacher and convulsed our friend by exclaiming:—

"Pleath, sir, she wath too little to reach it!"—Boston Cultivator.

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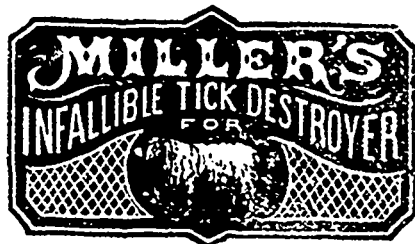
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