

THE BRITISH AMERICAN



CULTIVATOR.

"AGRICULTURE NOT ONLY GIVES RICHES TO A NATION, BUT THE ONLY RICHES SHE CAN CALL HER OWN."—*Dr. Johnson.*

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"Agriculture is the great art which every government ought to protect, every proprietor of lands to practice, and every inquirer into nature improve."—*Dr. Johnson.*

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MONTHLY CALENDAR.

The season for Haymaking is at hand: see that your tools are in complete order. If you have not already procured a horse hay-rake, lose no time in constructing or purchasing one. It will pay for itself in the item of labour alone in the course of one season, if the hay-harvest be at all extensive; and the satisfaction of having the work executed with efficiency and despatch should be an abundant inducement for every farmer to provide himself with such tools as would effectually secure that most desirable object.

Clover should be cut at that stage of its growth when just going out of flower. To make a good sample of clover-hay, cut early in the morning, and when partially wilted in the swaith, it should be gathered, with a fork, into small cocks; the following day those cocks

should be turned bottom side upwards, and then it will shortly be in a fit state for stacking or housing.

It is extremely difficult to lay down rules which may be implicitly followed in every instance, and especially in the operations of hay-making; but whether the plan here recommended be adopted or not, we trust that great care will be observed in not exposing too great a surface of grass, whilst undergoing the process of haymaking, to the action of the sun and dews.

Root crops require the most vigilant care during this and the following month. The weeds must be kept down, or else a failure of crop will ensue. Frequently stirring the ground with a hoe has been found to be one of the surest preventatives of their growth. Let it be remembered, in the cultivation of root crops, that one acre, by careful management, may be made to produce as much as two acres would do under the ordinary modes of cultivation. A liberal top-dressing of gypsum, salt, lime, or ashes would promote a healthy growth of leaves, thereby giving strength and vigour to the plant. An experiment with any, or all of these substances, though it be even on a small scale, would test their value, as fertilisers on root crops.

Harvest tools may now be repaired,

and put into complete order, for immediate use when wanted. As the Wheat harvest will have commenced by the 25th instant, we would recommend the readers of this Journal to make a few experiments, in order to ascertain the most proper period for cutting wheat. It has been asserted, by a number of the most clever Agricultural writers of the age, that it should be cut as soon as the berry has passed its milky state. Select out the most promising portion of your wheat crop for seed; and if there should be any plants of cockle, chess, or any other noxious weed, they should be separated from the standing grain, thereby securing a pure sample for seed. That portion of the crop intended for seed should not be harvested until it be quite ripe.

If you have any Canada thistles on your estates, cut them close to the surface of the ground, and apply a small quantity of salt to each plant, which will totally annihilate every one that is subjected to this treatment. Wild mustard, pigeon weed, or red root, ought not to be suffered to ripen their seed. Crops containing such weed should be thoroughly cleaned of them, not regarding the damage which may be sustained by the crop during the operation.