

FARMING HORSE SENSE

INDUCES THE AGRICULTURIST TO ADAPT CROPS TO SOILS.

An Interesting and Instructive Article From the Pen of Prof. Thomas Shaw—The Whole Field of Discussion in this Regard Indicated.

Prof. Thos. Shaw, formerly of Guelph, writes:

The wise adaptation of crops to the soils which grow them is one of the important essentials in successful farming. Where farming is carried on intelligently, those engaged in it usually come to know the crops which best suit their soils, and they govern themselves accordingly.

In newer countries there is more danger of making a mistake than in those which are older. Those who first settle usually begin to grow some crop which can be easily produced and marketed, and they continue to grow it so long as the soil will readily respond in producing it, and not until soil exhaustion forces them to look about for some other crop to grow that will respond better to the worn condition of the soil, do they think of making a change. Such has been the history of the early settlement of all wheat-growing sections on the continent.

When soil exhaustion compels farmers to look for other crops to grow, they frequently introduce these in a wholesale way. This should not be done at the start. It is never wise for the individual farmer to experiment in the introduction of a crop in a wholesale way. There is always enough of hazard in growing it thus after it has been introduced. An experiment with some new kind of grain or crop on a small scale will prove just as much as one on a large scale, if properly conducted. I have known instances where farmers unacquainted with alfalfa have sown many acres the first time of trial. Others, again, have gone into rape culture in a wholesale way without having demonstrated whether it would grow well on their soils.

It is never wise thus to introduce an untried plant. The person who so introduces it is ignorant as to its adaptability to his soil. He is not sure how it will agree with the climate, and in all probability he does not know how to grow it in best form. In fact it is certain that he does not, subject to the new conditions, in the absence of experience. When new crops are introduced they are, frequently condemned be-



At the Poultry Show.—Father—Do you know what kind of chickens those are, Willy? Willy (without hesitation)—Yes; they're ducks. Father (in surprise)—Ducks? Willy (Yes)—Yes, don't you see how they've got their hair cut—Fack.

cause of lack of knowledge as to the best methods of growing them. Clover, for instance, was tried in many sections of the northwest and condemned, where it is now grown every year. The plans of securing a stand in the east were not adapted to the conditions of the west, hence, until the proper methods of sowing this most useful plant in the sections named were ascertained, it did not succeed. Many a useful plant has been thus wounded in the house of its friends.

Because one kind of crop will grow well on a neighbor's farm, it does not follow that it will grow so well on ours. In fact, while it may do well with him, it may do ill with us. While he may make money in growing it freely, we would lose money were we to attempt to grow the same. The difference in the results may arise from the difference in the soil of the two farms.

It may be very desirable sometimes to grow a certain product upon our farms as an auxiliary to a certain line of feeding, and yet we may not be able to do so at a profit. So soon as we are quite satisfied on this point, we should not further make the attempt. For instance, we may be extensively engaged in the business of growing sheep for meat rather than for the wool which they produce. We may know that turnips make a most excellent factor for feeding them in the winter season, and in consequence we try to grow them. But we find that the land, or the climate, or it may be both, are not quite suitable. It would be unwise under those conditions to persevere in growing turnips for the sheep. We should rather grow mangels, or carrots, or sugar beets, if these will grow more readily, as they will give us equally good results when we feed them as do the turnips. It may be that roots will not grow equally well with corn. It would be well, then, to grow corn in the place of roots. It may not do quite so well as roots when used instead, but it will serve a good end if the right kinds are grown, and if they are fed in proper combination.

This question of adaptability is far too little studied. Men too often go on in the same way as did their fathers, and for no other reason apparently than that arising from the practice of their fathers. Red top grass and alsike clover are frequently sown on dry, high lands although such soils are not adapted to the growth of either. Wheat is often sown on lands too much impoverished to grow it, and yet those same lands may be able to grow some renovating crop in fair form. We are still told that it will not pay to grow alfalfa where red clover will grow in good form, and yet small patches of alfalfa adjacent to our buildings would be very convenient in the green food that it would furnish from year to year.

It also sometimes happens that a certain crop can not be grown in the best form alone, while it will do fairly well when grown in combination with other crops. Peas, for instance, are of this character. There are many sections of the country where peas will not grow so well as they do in Canada or in the State of New York. They may not do well enough to justify competing with these countries in growing them, and yet they may be made to serve an excellent end by growing them in conjunction with oats to be used as a green food for dairy cows. And when not wanted for soiling, if they are cut at the early maturing stage and cured for winter feeding, they make an excellent food for various classes of live stock.

Adaptability also applies to the different varieties of any kind of crop grown, and in a marked degree. It happens in some in-

stances that one variety may do exceedingly well in one part of a state, and yet be but little worth in another. The difference in results may arise from a difference in soil and climatic conditions. But even new varieties of a farm product that in some of its kinds has proved itself well adapted to certain conditions, should be introduced at first with a prudent caution. To go extensively into it before its value has been conclusively proved might be attended with considerable loss.

And in connection with adaptability we do well to study diversity. The individual who grows a variety of produce is always safer than he who grows only one or two kinds. He is in a much better condition to meet the fluctuations of the market, and the same is also true of a state. The wider the range of the products grown within the conditions of adaptability, the greater the resources of the state ordinarily from agricultural sources, and the freer it is from the influences of a depressing character which arise from the great decline in market values which relate to one staple product.

TIMELY HINTS.

Suggestions for Farm and Garden It Will Pay to Heed.

The dull boy needs more patience and encouragement on your part than does the smart one.

Plant a few carrots for the horses. They are the best succulent food for horses in winter.

"Meant to do it" never accomplished anything, but has caused much needless work, expense and worry.

Try a quarter of an acre, or more, of mangels or sugar beets for the cows. They are also an excellent green food for poultry, and cheap, too.

The three-year-old colt, if large and strong, may be worked in occasionally as a third horse, but never more than a few hours or half a day at a time.

Plan for a good grass pasture for the hogs during the summer. Cheaper and better pork can be made in such a pasture than where the hogs are penned fed all the time.

Go slow in starting the horses in the spring's work. The work is rushing, but if the horses are rushed before they become hardened and accustomed to it they will soon go "off feed."

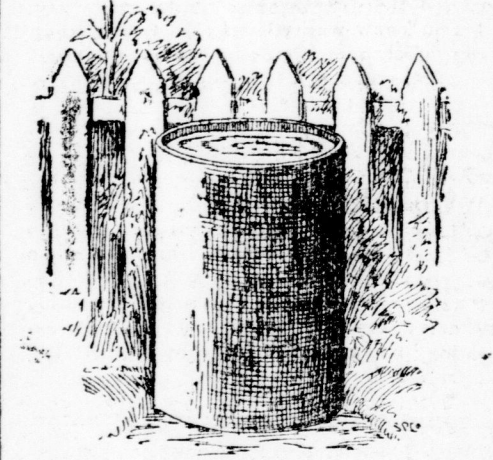
A good dose of fertilizer will not hurt the oats if it is a kind containing a large per cent. of potash and phosphoric acid, but nitrogen is not generally needed. It is a mistake to suppose that they do not need any more plant food than is found in the soil.

It is better to be behind your neighbors in turning your stock to pasture in the spring if you would be ahead of them in having abundant pasturage in August when it will be most needed. Give the grass a good start, for the cattle will catch up with it.

If you cannot afford glass sash for a hot-bed, procure some plant cloth. It costs but a third as much as glass, is durable, and answers the same purpose. Most seedsmen keep it. It can be tacked on frames or drawn over the bed and tacked at the ends. It is also used largely for making plant protectors and for building temporary chrysanthemum houses in the fall.

Serviceable Roadside Watering-Place.

Streams from nearby elevations frequently cross or run parallel with highways, from which elevations, pipes can be laid to the side of the roadbed. This gives a head of water that will not only cause it to rise in a trough, so that a horse may be watered without unchecking—a great convenience—but will also afford such a movement of the water, if the inlet is rightly arranged, that ice will not form, at least over the entire surface, even in extremely cold weather. An excellent roadside watering trough can be made by taking a section of iron sewer or water pipe, two

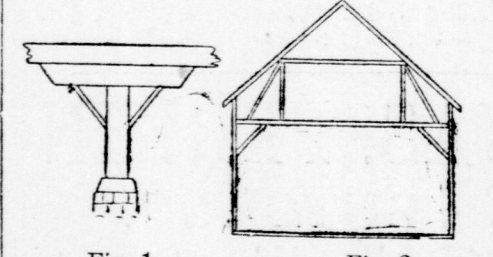


IRON PIPE WATERING TROUGH.

feet or more in diameter. This, of course, will have no bottom, and one must be made in the foundation that is provided, which should be of rocks, gravel, sand, and, if necessary, cement. A supply pipe and a waste pipe must enter the trough through this foundation, the supply pipe being carried up on one side of the trough nearly to the top, and its upper end bent at a right angle, so that the flowing water may form a constantly flowing current around the circular inclosure. When this iron has been placed in position on the foundation provided, the space which it incloses at its base may be cemented, after which fine, clean sand should be filled in for six or more inches. A sufficiently tight bottom may perhaps be made by tamping in a foot or more of sand. The greater the force with which water enters such a trough the stronger will be the circular current within, and the less likelihood will there be that the surface will freeze over.

Timber Supports.

A recent article suggests some other forms of timber supports, one of which is briefly represented in fig. 1. The single



post supports not only the centre of the horizontal timber, but also a large portion of this timber without any pins or spikes to weaken it. In fig. 2 is a combination of timbers giving great strength and leaving an entire opening below. These timbers will be very useful in constructing barns with a full and free sweep across the floor, as well as for bridges.

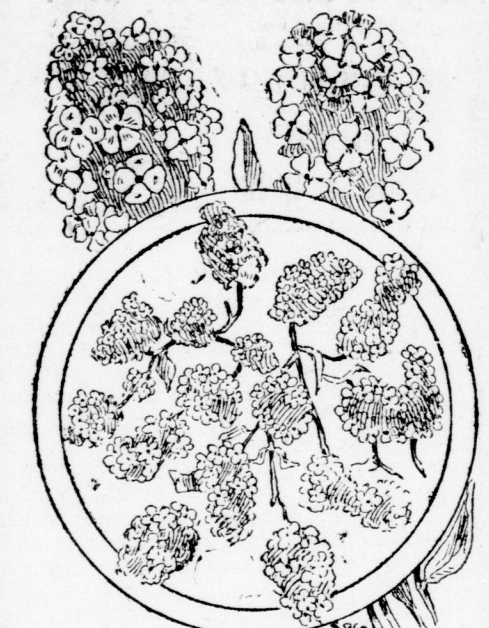
A Pertinent Query.

An exchange pertinently inquires: "Why not plant a few more fruit trees on your farm? Apples are very good, but why not have a little variety? There is surely a corner you could spare for a few pear, cherry or plum trees." A pertinent query.

DAINTY AND BEAUTIFUL.

The Honey-Scented Sweet Alyssum and Its Possibilities.

Could I have but one plant either for the border or the window garden it should be that dainty, honey-scented little darling, sweet alyssum, says Dart Fairthorn in *Vick's Magazine*. Small of growth and bloom, by those who never see beauty except in dainty it might be considered insignificant, but to the real flower-lover who will not be entirely given over to scarlet geraniums and hollyhocks it possesses a beauty all its own. There is such a distinct individuality about its dainty blossoms, such an air of good cheer and comfortable adaptability to circumstances—entirely borne out, too, by its life—such a winsome sprightliness and altogether lowliness that it always reminds me of bright-faced children whenever I see it. It is the laugh of the flowers. Some of them preach and some of them pray, but



SWEET ALYSSUM IN A HANGING BASKET. The sweet alyssum laughs "right out loud." The whole border may preach, the lilies droop their lovely heads, "like penitents in prayer," the callas lift their snowy chalices in mute protest against the whole world's wickedness and the impurity of earth generally; but the sweet little alyssum—nothing daunted by the sermonizing of stately flowers—will not riot over the ground, screening its impurities from sight, filling in chinks with its beauty, caressing the feet of roses and rue alike, and seeming to my errant fancy to be keeping up a running accompaniment of cheerful comment or an undercurrent of perpetual merriment all the while. Like childhood it is irrepresible.

The seed of the sweet alyssum, so fine as to be difficult to manage, is flat and round, of a light brown or tan color, and stored full of vitality. Plant twenty-five of them in a fine sandy loam, and with ordinary treatment you may be reasonably sure of as many plants, each one of which will be of interest from the first moment it sends up its initial four trim, pretty, light green leaves. When once these are thrifty growing you may be almost sure of your plant.

I like to sow the seed in boxes in the house; it is so very interesting to watch them grow. It takes such a very little time for the seeds to poke their little green promise above the soil, and so very soon the smiling blooms appear. It is a good plant for the amateur to begin with, being such light tax on the patience, as few plants admit. When your tiny plants are two inches high transplant into thumbs and pinch out the top. Going on with the growth, continue the shifting and pinching processes until they are in four-inch pots, then desist; you will have finely-rounded compact little plants which will soon be perfect little pyramids of fragrant blooms.

A convenient and effective way of growing the alyssum is to sow the seed directly in long narrow boxes fitted to the window sill and about four inches deep. Its needs, grown thus, will be light, moisture, not too hot a sunshine, very occasionally weak liquid manure and—room to spread itself. Given these, it will more than reward you for your care of it by sending out, surprisingly soon, a multitude of dainty bloom, small and shy at first, as though half afraid of its first impression upon you, but waxing stronger and stronger, and sweeter and sweeter, until you grow to love it in the heart-whole way its winsomeness deserves. The seed may be sown directly in the border where it is to bloom or it may be transplanted with perfect ease. Sown thickly, it makes a beautiful edging plant or a distinct line in a ribbon bed. But do not let it grow too rankly, keep it trimmed and pinched in, and in place, and if after awhile it is going too much to seed shear it back sharply. It will then spring up to a fresh growth and be all the lovelier for the seemingly rough treatment. Then in the autumn you will find around the larger plants the tiny four-leaved ones springing up which are just what you want in quantity for your window garden. A pretty effect is produced by growing the alyssum in clumps between taller plants. It will spread itself out like an oval mat and be a mass of bloom.

Sweet alyssum makes a beautiful bracket plant. It should then be pinched in less, rather allowed to grow in its natural wayward beauty, and though the branches attain no great length it is pretty in such a position.

Promoting Laying.

When the hens cease to lay, a change of food will sometimes start them to laying again, and it may be that the food will supply a want. If the regular grain ration is given, and no green food can be obtained, they will sometimes get constipated, the result being indigestion. To avoid this and also afford a change, give the hens oil cake, broken into suitable bits, twice a week, allowing a pound of oil cake to twenty hens. They will appreciate the change and be benefited, as the oil cake is cathartic in its tendency and also a highly nutritious food.

Unlike the Dutch Process

No Alkalies

—OR—

Other Chemicals

are used in the

preparation of

W. BAKER & CO.'S

Breakfast Cocoa

which is absolutely

pure and soluble.

It has more than three times

the strength of Cocoa mixed

with Starch, Arrowroot or

nomical, costing less than one cent a cup.

It is delicious, nourishing, and EASILY

DIGESTED.

Sold by Grocers everywhere.

W. BAKER & CO., Dorchester, Mass.

USE POND'S EXTRACT

FOR
PILES
BURNS
SORE
EYES
WOUNDS
SORES
Headache
AND
ALL
PAIN

Have the early frosts or too late a lingering by the garden gate again aroused that RHEUMATISM so peacefully slumbering the summer long? Well, if it's very bad you must change your diet and perhaps take some distasteful drug—the doctor will tell you what—but first rub thoroughly the part afflicted with POND'S EXTRACT, then wrap it warmly with flannel, and the rheumatism may wholly disappear. It will certainly be much relieved. Now that you have the POND'S EXTRACT try it for any of the many things its buff wrapper mentions. It's a wonderful curative. But don't accept substitutes. POND'S EXTRACT CO., 76 Fifth Ave., N. Y.

FOR
COLDS
CUTS
BRUISES
SPRAINS
SORE
THROAT
Catarrh
AND
AFTER
SHAVING

GRAND OPENING

NEW FURNITURE SHOWROOMS.

WE WANT CASH

For 30 days we will sell: Solid Oak Bedroom Suites British Plate Mirror, cheval or square, polish finish, \$20. Oak Dining Chairs, \$1, regular price \$1.50. PARLOR SUITES AWAY DOWN.

JOHN FERGUSON & SONS.

174 TO 180 KING STREET.

House and Carriage Painters.

Lovers of good material will find great comfort and economy in using the high class colors manufactured by the Canada Paint Company. The colors, ground in distemper, in oil or in Japan, are worked out by modern machinery to a degree of fineness unattainable by any other manufacture. There is no loss. Every ounce is pure paint. The colors are uniform in color and shade. We emphatically assert, without fear of contradiction, that to-day our Tints, Varnishes and specialties are the most largely used in the best shops throughout the Dominion, and are giving the best of satisfaction. In White Lead, the "Elephant" and the Canada Paint Company's Decorators' Pure are the leading brands. Beware of substitutes.

Canada Paint Company (Limited)

751 xiz



RHEUMATISM

NEURALGIA, MUSCULAR STIFFNESS. MUST GO

PAIN IN SIDE & LAME BACK

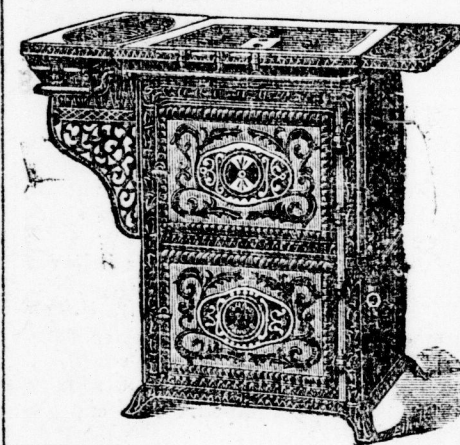
WHEN THE "D.&L." MENTHOL PLASTER IS USED

BOWMAN, KENNEDY & CO

Wholesale Hardware Merchants, LONDON, ONT.

FULL LINES FOR THE SPRING TRADE—

Spades and Shovels, Window and Door Screens, Harvest Tools, Linseed Oil, White Lead, Castor Oil, Mixed Colors, Paris Green, Dried Colors, Window Glass, Rope, Cut Nails, Wire Cloth, Wire Nails, And full lines of Shelf and General Hardware. WRITE US FOR PRICES.



"OXFORD" Gas Ranges!

Have Perfect Combustion. Are Powerful and Economical. Have Two Capacious Ovens. Bake Perfectly. Roast Perfectly. They are Immense Water Heaters.

Oxford Oil Gas Stoves

Make and burn gas from ordinary coal oil.

A GRAND SUMMER STOVE

—MANUFACTURED BY THE—

Gurney Foundry Co'y (Ltd.)

TORONTO.

FOR SALE BY—

Wm. Wyatt & Son, 364 Richmond Street & Market Square LONDON. wt

No Harmful Chemicals

Are used in our cleaning or coloring departments. The most delicate fabrics leave our hands as sound as when they come.

This applies equally to Men's and Women's Clothing, Lace, Damask, Repp and Chenille Curtains, Kid Gloves and Feathers,

R. Parker & Co., STEAM DYES AND CLEANERS

217 Dundas St., London.

BE SURE and send your parcels to Parker's; telephone 614. They will be done right if done at PARKER'S. ywt

Windsor Salt Works.

(Vacuum Process.)

The finest salt made by the vacuum process, which frees the salt from all impurities, now for sale at the lowest prices. Apply E. G. HENDERSON, Manager, London, Ont.

Lake Steamship Line

One of the fast electric-lighted steamships

ALBERTA and ATHABASCA

Is intended to leave OWEN SOUND every

WEDNESDAY AND SATURDAY

calling at Sault Ste. Marie, Mich., only, and making close connection with the through

trains at Fort William. The connecting ex-

press will leave London on and after May 7 at

1:15 a.m.

T. R. PARKER, AGENT

NAVIGATION AND RAILWAYS.

Queen's Birthday EXCURSIONS.

MAY 23 and 24, GOOD TO RETURN MAY 25, via

MICHIGAN CENTRAL

"The Niagara Falls Route."

To all stations in Canada, and to Detroit, Buffalo, Niagara Falls, N. Y., at

SINGLE FARE.

Particulars at the city ticket office, 395 Richmond street, or M. C. R. depot.

JOHN PAUL, City Ticket Agent, O. W. RUGGLES, JOHN C. LAVEN, Gen. Pass. Agent, Can. Pass. Agent.

GRAND TRUNK RAILWAY

Queen's Birthday

ROUND TRIP TICKETS FOR

SINGLE FARE

On May 23 and 24, good for return until May 25, 1894.

Offices—"Clock," corner Richmond and Dundas streets, and at G. T. R. depot.

L. J. SEARGEANT, General Manager.

From all stations in Canada, Fort William and East.

CANADIAN PACIFIC RY

QUEEN'S BIRTHDAY

—WILL SELL—

Return Tickets

On WEDNESDAY, MAY 23 and THURSDAY, MAY 24.

Good to return up to and on Friday, May 25, '94.

At SINGLE FIRST-CLASS FARE.

Reduced Rate Tickets must be obtained at the Company's Ticket Offices.

Tickets purchased on trains will be sold at full rate.

Apply to any agent of the Company.

THOS. R. PARKER, City Passenger Agent, 161 Dundas street, southwest corner Richmond.

City Office open 7 a.m.

SOLE AGENCY OF THE

WHITE STAR LINE

Berths secured, sailing lists furnished and information given at

"CLOCK" CORNER

RICHMOND & DUNDAS STS.

E. De la Hooke, Agent

F. S. CLARKE

Steamship Ticket and Tourist

AGENT.

LOWEST RATES TO EUROPE.

Agent Merchants' Line steamers Ocean and Cuba to Montreal.

Next Door to "Advertiser,"

TELEPHONE 638.

CUNARD LINE

"LANE ROUTE."

From New York to Liverpool via Queens-

town. Fast Express Mail Service.

CAMPANIA.....Saturday, May 19, 6:30 a.m.

STURIA.....Saturday, May 25, 9:30 a.m.

LUCANIA.....Saturday, June 2, 3:00 p.m.

UMBRIA.....Saturday, June 9, 10 a.m.

CAMPANIA.....Saturday, June 16, 3 p.m.

STURIA.....Saturday, June 23, 8 a.m.

LUCANIA.....Saturday, June 30, 3:00 p.m.

UMBRIA.....Saturday, July 7, 8 a.m.

RATES OF PASSAGE.—Cabin, \$50 and upwards.

Second cabin, \$40, \$35, \$30, according to

accommodations; return tickets on favorable

terms. Steerage tickets to and from Liver-

pool and Queens-town and all other parts of

Europe at lowest rates. Through bills of

lading given for Belfast, Glasgow, Havre,

Antwerp and other parts of the continent, and

or Mediterranean ports.

VERNON H. BROWN & Co., general agents,

157 Broadway, New York.

E. DE LA HOOKE,

"Clock" corner Richmond and Dundas Sts.

A. G. SMYTHE,

Bank of Commerce Building, first door north

of Dundas street.

ALLAN LINE

Royal Mail Steamships, Liverpool,

Calling at Moville.

From Montreal. From Quebec.

daylight 9 a.m.

Parisian.....May 19 May 20

Mongolian.....May 25 May 27

Nimidian