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AND CHERAW ADVERTISER.

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By M. MAC LEAN.

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AGRICULTURAL.

From the Maine Farmer.

SUCCESSIVE CROPS OF WHEAT FROM THE SAME LAND.

MR. HOLMES.—Wishing to contribute what I fairly can, to make known the agricultural capabilities of that part of Maine in which I reside, I do not know of a better way to accomplish it than this. Nor perhaps can I do the State a better service, than to relate in this way some of my experience in growing wheat. This I have done the last four years on the same piece of land with complete success; and I see no particular difficulty why I cannot keep on for many years more, growing good crops of wheat on the same land without taxing the manure heap. I not happening to believe the theory generally admitted, which lays it down for fact, that wheat cannot be raised two years in succession to any advantage on the same land. I have tried the experiment with one acre to wheat four years in succession, and find the theory to be mere bigotry unsupported by the facts in this case. I will engage to prove my statement to any one that will take the trouble to come and see my fifth crop, next August, on the same land, for I intend to continue the experiment until I find it unprofitable, to pursue it farther. At present I have as much confidence in the fifth crop, as I have in that of any piece of land on my farm, or I will say in town, however well manured and cultivated it may have been last year. I am made confident in making this assertion on account of the light lively and rich appearance of the soil, and I have faith that what it has done so well for four years in succession it will be likely to do again. At present I see but very little in the way of my raising wheat for twenty years in succession to as good advantage as it can be done in New York or any other state, unless I am prevented by the spreading of thistles, of which there are at present some indications, that at some future time the land may become too much infested with them to grow wheat with good success. However, I hope I shall not be troubled with them much for several years. The land in question in 1825, was a very mossy unproductive piece of mowing land. It was ploughed in the fall of that year, in the spring of '36 it was cross ploughed, manured middling well, and about one hundred and sixty bushels of leached ashes was put on the acre, and it was planted to potatoes. Owing to the great quantity of moss, and its stubborn sour nature, the potatoes turned out but an ordinary crop. I ploughed the land again in the fall of '36, and sowed it to wheat without ploughing it again, early in April of '37, had an excellent crop, upwards of forty bushels from an acre. In the fall of '37, ploughed the stubble under, it was done very well. In the spring of '38, I sowed wheat early, without its having been spring ploughed. After the wheat got up two or three inches, sowed on about three bushels of plaster per acre, I got as good a yield per acre, as any I had that year or any in our neighborhood. I turned the stubble under again, in the fall of '38, and without ploughing again, in the spring of '39 I sowed to wheat again. This year the white and red clover threatened the young wheat hard; but it overcame, and at reaping time presented a good crop for this year, as good as any in our vicinity. The precise yield for these two years I have no means of ascertaining for it was put in common with other wheat that grew on my farm. Those years however it grew stout enough for twenty five bushels per acre. I ploughed it again in the fall of '39 early after reaping, and again in the spring of '40, I then spread on three cart loads of leached ashes of about forty bushels each, the wheat sown this year was of the bald kind, and like most of wheat sowed late in order to avoid the weevil. Late sowed wheat this year generally rusted, and this was the case with mine, the wheat was in consequence considerably shrunk in the kernel, therefore diminished in the crop, the produce of the acre in question was kept and thrashed by itself, the yield was thirty two bushels to the acre, the straw grew stout enough for fifty bushels or more per acre. Had I sown the kind of wheat called the Black Sea wheat I have no doubt but my crop would have turned out many more bushels than it did, for according to all the evidence I have been able to obtain, the Black Sea wheat may be sown late without danger from the rust. In fact, this is demonstrated to my mind in consequence of having seen a great many samples of our old kinds of wheat that grew last year, and from different towns and neighborhoods, and among them all I have not found one fair sample. The only fair sample of wheat that I have seen of last year's growth, are two of the Black Sea kind. One I obtained from Bloomsfield, Kennebec Co., the other from Samuel, Butnam, Esq. of Plymouth in this county. Those two samples will compare to good advantage with wheat raised in 1837 & '38, two of our best wheat years. Those two samples I intend to sow next year.

Extract from the Report of ROBERT MCAFEE *Vice President of the 5th District Agricultural Society, (Kentucky) to the President of the State Society.*

Very few men ever will learn any thing except from experience, and this is particularly the case as to farming and agricultural pursuits, hence the experience of one generation is lost upon the next, because in a great measure the systems of our best farmers exist and die with them, as all has reposed in the memory of each individual, when if we had the experience of practical farmers committed to writing, or collected into one systematic treatise, it would enable many to profit by it, who are now left in the dark, but even this would be very difficult on account of the variety of our soils, uncertainty of the seasons, and the vast difference in the application of industry and attention to every thing connected with farming and stock raising. Every day's experience shows us that some individuals far outstrip their neighbors possessing equal capital and soil—one man is astonished to see his neighbor have better stock, and more grass, and grain, than he has, although he works as hard, rises as early and toils as late. The farm of the one always looks neat, and every thing around him seems to prosper, although the other seems to be more noisy, blustering and industrious; why is this the case? This is a plain simple question, and every person thinks he can solve it. Then why do we see the same things acted over and over again, without any improvement? A few reflections here may not be amiss, not for the purpose of being read only, but to induce agriculturalists to think, and examine closely every thing connected with their business. In order to do this, it is only necessary to lay down a few general rules, which are essential to all kinds of business: 1st. *No man will prosper in any occupation, unless he gives his whole attention to it.* This is true as to farming as well as every thing else; if we have servants or hirelings, the master's eye alone is worth one servant, and if he lays hold himself, it will add two more in expediting his business; his eyes must be every where over his farm, his horses, cattle, sheep and hogs, must all be in their proper place, and regularly fed, his farming utensils must all be ready in due season, have their known places, and uses, and never be out of place when wanted, and the man who attends to these things will always have time enough to do every thing necessary on his farm, and at the close of the season he will find himself amply repaid for his attention. We have often been told by Franklin and others that, *time is money.* This is true as well to the farmer as the mechanic, every farmer should always recollect when *seed time and harvest* comes, he has the promise of these times, and Providence will never disappoint him while time lasts; but unfortunately many farmers disappoint themselves. Their ground is not ploughed in due season or their crops put in at the proper time; pleasant weather is used in attending to unnecessary work, and a rainy day is sure to be the very day they intended to plant their corn; and Sunday always comes round before they are ready for it. Thus things are always out of joint with such farmers, they work hard, and are always very busy, many times doing worse than nothing. To this class may be added those farmers who in the fall of the year, after seeding time, leave their ploughs and harrows in the field, in the spot where they quit work, to remain out all the winter to rot, their hoes and scythes hanging in the trees round the fences, and every thing else out of place, such men may work hard and fret at hard times as long as they live, but they will never overtake the lost time, or equal their more careful and enconomical neighbor, who attends to his business in due season, always doing that which is most needed.

* * * * *

Clearing Ground.—I have already in my communication of Dec. 1838, made a few suggestions as to the proper time to clear your land for cultivation, or to deaden timber in your woodland pastures. This I again repeat, ought to be done in the latter part of July and the month of August, if we do not wish to be troubled with sprouts, briars and brush the balance of our lives—a tree cut down or deadened in August will not sprout, neither will undergrowth come again to any extent, and the farmer has as much leisure this month as any other in the year; those who insist upon trying the experiment for themselves, may do so, as I do not wish to claim exclusive orthodoxy for my opinions or practice. Farmers often complain of the briars, grubs and brush along their fences, and I have seen several inquiries as to the best mode of extermination. The first error was committed in clearing the land at the wrong time of the year; and the next is want of industry, to cut down the briars with the hoe every time the field is ploughed while cultivating corn, or after harvest to cut the briars from the pannels of the fences; a few years of perseverance will relieve the farmer from much labor, but if he permits the briars to grow and advance into his field while he ploughs around them for fear of getting scratched, he will soon have to give up his field and turn it out, like he does his poor hogs, for more industrious men to laugh at. I recollect some thirty years since, when briar patches and blackberry fields, were more in fashion than at the present time, and when many a sore complaint was made as to the truth of the primeval curse put upon the earth, that a respectable old gentleman in Mercer county, who was noted for his neatness about his farm, contrived to get along free from all such complaints; he divided the different lines of fence among his servants and gave them a part of every Saturday evening to cultivate the corner of his fences in hop-vines and potatoes, which yielded them a handsome profit. Thus he kept down the briars, thorns and thistles, and every part of his farm was cultivated; he had large pastures and meadows for his stock, and never permitted any thing to run upon his fallows or cultivated fields, the crab grass which sprung up spontaneously in his fields, where he had his wheat, rye, &c. was permitted to grow and was ploughed in next spring. Thus he kept his land constantly as good as at first. The use of the red clover was then in a measure unknown in Kentucky, or I have no doubt he would have substituted it for his system, which deprived him of much of the best pasture he had which his neighbors could not do without on their farms, having not yet either the blue grass or the clover. They depended alone on the crab grass after harvest. The consequence was, his system was not adopted, and the fence rows grew up unmolested for want of time to keep them down, and the old gentleman's example was lost as a matter of course.

From the Western Farmer and Gardener.

ÆGERIA EXITIOSA.

Among the causes of the premature decay of the Peach-Tree, the depredations of this insect, is the principal one.

In the larva or *grub-form*, the body of this worm is of a whitish color, and its head reddish brown. Its length at maturity, is about three-fourths of an inch.

It commences its destructive career soon after it has hatched from the egg, and enters the tree, probably through the tender bark, under the surface of the soil. From thence, it first works downwards in the root, until the early part of the ensuing summer, when it directs its course upwards, towards the body of the tree, by excavating a channel, as it progresses, between the bark and wood.

Having attained its full size in the *Larva* or *grub*-form, it next passes into the *Pupa* state, between the first and the middle of July. At that time, it may be discovered, close to the trunk of the tree, enveloped in its *follicle*, and surrounded by a large accumulation of gum, that oozes out of its desiccated channel in the root. In this, the *Pupa* state, it continues until the latter part of July, or the beginning of August, when it again changes into the *moth, winged*, or *perfect* state.

In this condition it is active and vigilant, concealing itself during the day, in cracks or crevices, about the trees, fences or other secure places, and at night issuing forth to fulfil its vocations, and prepare for propagating a new generation of the grub.

While in the *moth*-state, the sexes differ so much in appearance, that a superficial observer might mistake them for distinct species.

The female soon commences depositing her eggs upon the bark of the tree just above the surface of the ground, and completes the process before the close of September, when she, as well as the male dies.

It is said, that in some instances she deposits not less than three hundred eggs upon one tree. The egg is oblong-oval, dull-yellow, and so small as to be only just observable by the naked eye. It hatches into a minute grub in eight or ten days. The young progeny then perforates the tender bark of the trees, beneath the surface of the earth, in the manner already suggested.

These several changes, constitute its annual routine of transformation, and they usually occur at the periods mentioned; yet there are individuals that do not conform to the general rule, but undergo the changes earlier or later, according to circumstances; and it is probable that there are a few females depositing their eggs during most, or all of the summer months.

A detailed account of the habits, and scientific characters of the *Ægeria*, as well as of the means that are sometimes employed to prevent its depredations, is contained in Mr. Say's "American Entemology," Vol. II., which your readers will do well to consult.*

A knowledge of the habits of noxious or troublesome insects, will many times enable us to devise methods for their counteraction. In the instance of this insect, a very simple remedy to prevent its depredations has been suggested, and I am happy to say that experience has, to some extent, confirmed its efficacy.

The *Ægeria* in its perfect or winged state, is closely allied to the *moth* family. The fact is probably universally known, that aromatic oils of all kinds are peculiarly offensive to that family of insects. Every house-wife knows that a quantity of Camphor, Turpentine, oil of Tansy, or Tobacco, placed in her drawers, containing woolen clothes, will effectually preserve them from attacks of the common moth.

It is evident that the same plan, under some form, may be employed to repel from the peach tree the *Ægeria*, in its moth state; and it is only in that state in which it deposits its eggs.

Tobacco sulphur and coal-ashes have been tried with partial success—but they are temporary, and require to be often replaced.

Tansy and wormwood contain large quantities of essential oil, which is peculiarly offensive to this insect; and it is found, that if the body of the peach tree be surrounded by half a dozen sprouts of either of these vegetables, it will be perfectly secured against the approaches of this destructive enemy.

They should be planted out in the spring, nearly in contact with the body of the tree, and so as to surround it. During the summer they should be cultivated, and kept free from grass. In this way they form a permanent and successful means of defence against the insect that has nearly exterminated the peach tree from many sections of the country.

It is probable the *Chanipodium anthelminticum*, the plant that furnishes the wormseed-oil, and perhaps some other bitter and aromatic vegetables, would answer equally well.

The Hon. Reuben Wood first suggested this method to me, several years since, and I have tested it myself, to a limited extent. During the last summer I had the satisfaction of seeing the successful result of it, on a more extended scale, at his farm, a few miles from Cleveland.—Large and healthy peach trees were standing in his garden, that had remained exempt from any attacks of the worm for a number of years—during which time they had been carefully surrounded either with Tansy or wormwood; at the same time, other trees, in the same garden, and very contiguous, left unprotected, were rapidly declining, with their roots perforated in all directions by the worm.

It is probably unnecessary to add, that these means will act as a prevention against the insect, only while it is in the winged state. They will not affect the larva or the pupa.

Nor will the Horticulturist expect them to preserve his peach trees against attacks of the yellows, the evil effects of a bad soil, or the injurious impressions of extreme cold weather while the wood is immature.

JARED P. KIRTLAND.

Cincinnatti, Feb. 22d, 1841.

From the Western Farmer and Gardener.

SWEET POTATOES.

Neville Farm, Clermont Co., O.

Messrs. HOOPER AND AFFLECK: *Gentlemen*—Permit me to suggest a few brief remarks on the subject of raising Sweet Potatoes.

It is the wish of some men, when they are in possession of any knowledge by which they excel their neighbors in cultivating any article of *Marketing*, to incline to secrecy on the subject. Now, my dear sirs, I am not only willing, but even anxious, that every person should be in possession of the best possible method of cultivating every article that is in general use.

I was for many years in the habit of raising high, peaked hills for my potatoes, and then flattening the tops, say 6 or 8 inches in diameter—and then planting from 3 to 5 pieces, or small roots in each hill. The result was universally, if it was seasonable, I had an overflowing crop of vines, and but few roots, and these small. If the season was dry, I had but few vines, and no roots. Last spring I determined to try again. Accordingly I bought some seed potatoes in market in Cincinnatti, of an old gentleman, I think his name was Durham, and he directed me how to manage—which was as follows: Plough your ground *deep*, then harrow it well, so as to pulverise it; then furrow it off three feet apart, and then cross furrow it 3 feet 6 inches. These furrows form the margin of each hill; then pulverise all the clods in each hill, and raise them up, say about ten inches, leaving them perfectly flat on the top.—Put in *one small potatoe*, or a piece not larger than your least finger, in the middle of each hill; (and, said he, Durham, you will have roots with but few tops,) I followed his directions, and the result was, I had more in a hill, and I think larger potatoes than I had ever seen before. Some of your readers will see this article who saw my potatoes whilst growing, and after I had dug them.

I am, respectfully, yours,

T. DAUGHTERS.

Our most successful growers of sweet potatoes in this vicinity, who raise them for market, prepare their hills as Mr. Daughters describes, selecting a piece of new land, and preferring it of a light, rich, sandy loam—but instead of a single piece in a hill, they put their seed potatoes in a hotbed about the middle or end of March, laying them carefully all over the surface of the bed, and covering them with two inches of rich earth, and thus forward them, so as to have fine, strong plants to set out by the last week of April, or the first of May. They put one sprout in a hill, and get three crops from their bed. One bushel of good seed is considered sufficient for an acre, containing some 4000 hills. By thus sprouting their seed, they make it go farther; they have potatoes ready for market two weeks earlier; and they have a longer season for their full crops to grow and ripen in, before frost.

T. A.

From the American Farmer (Baltimore.)

MORE OF HAMILTON'S SEWING MACHINE.—As no country stands in so much need as ours of labor-saving machinery, so none has given birth to as many inventions for that purpose. Any one looking into the Patent Office must be struck with the vast disproportion in the number of inventors of machines in the North and in the South—the Yankees beating all creation with their notions.

A gentleman who has had more to do with sawing and selling timber than any one we know, sent the following for publication, and if it had been at hand, we should have added it to the other notices of Sawing Mills which have recently been given to our readers.

We saw a few days since, a friend from Alabama, who came up from Washington, to look at our fellow-citizen, Page's Portable Saw Mill, and went back very highly pleased with that and with many other inventions for which the tillers of the soil are indebted to Mr. Page.—We regret the delay which has attended the publication of the following, coming from the quarter that it does.

PORTABLE SAW MILL.

New and Valuable Improvement.

This mill is about 6 feet high, 8 feet long, 4 feet wide, and weighs about 800 pounds. Two men can put the entire mill in a common ox-cart or two horse wagon, carry it from place to place, and set it up in any part of the woods, or on any part of a farm, or in a barn.—propelled by manual, horse, warter or steam power, or two horse engine, being sufficient to saw common sized logs; or it can be propelled by means of a drum and band attached to the main shaft of any common water mill; or two men can work it with ease by means of cranks, and cut several hundred feet of white oak ship planks, boards or scantling in a day.—(In ordinary pit-sawing a hundred feet of ship plank is considered a fair day's work for two men.) It saws with facility and accuracy the longest and largest sized logs, which from their size and length are rendered inconvenient and expensive and often from their location, impracticable to be hauled to a stationary saw mill.

To planters and farmers, and persons engaged in getting lumber, and especially to tobacco planters, this mill will be of very great advantage in sawing tobacco house frames, particularly for sawing tobacco hogshead dwelling houses, out-houses, &c., and siding and heading, which may be sawed out of gum, sycamore, beach maple, or any other tree large or small, of but little value. A tobacco planter can have one of these mills set up in his tobacco house and in a few rainy days saw all his bacoco hogshead staves and heading.

Three or four planters or farmers clubbing in, and buying a mill for their joint use, will be saving, and cost each one but a small sum.

This mill is the reverse of all other saw mills; the saw moves on a frame, and travels through the log, which lays still, only raised a little above the ground, and is intirely disconnected with the mill; whereas, in the ordinary saw mills, the saw is stationary, and the log on its own carriage travels through the saw.

The great and superior advantages of the portable saw mill, is the great saving of power and labor, The machinery is simple and not liable to get out of order; it can be transported with ease from place to place at pleasure. It can be operated with any kind of power, without material change in its parts. It will do away all kinds of pit sawing, and, as soon as its usefulness and simplicity is generally known, it is believed every large planter and farmer in the State of Maryland, will have one of these portable saw mills on his estate.

Mr. S. A. Newell says, "One of these portable saw mills will cut from four to five thousand feet of lumber per day."—See his advertisement published in "The New York Democratic Press," dated 12th of November last.

Any person owning a Threshing Machine, the horsepower of it can be used to propell the portable saw-mill to advantage. Also any person owning a water mill or tide mill, can have a portable saw mill connected to them with very little expense.

From the S. C. Temperance Advocate.

Mr. Editor,—In conformty to my promise, at your request, I now take up my pen, to contribute my mite to that branch your paper, devoted to the subject of Agriculture. Although a subscriber to the Farmers Register, and esteem it a valuable publication; I am pleased to find your columns opened (partially) for the same object, and thus affording us a more convenient channel, at home, for our communications, upon subjects of Agriculture. There must necessarily exist such a difference between farming at the North, and in our State from our climate, and more especially, as we must adopt a system of farming, suited to the cultivation of our Cotton crops; that a distinct periodical is indispensable, for the advancement of Agricultural in our State. I am persuaded that no subscriber to the Temperance Advocate, can be displeased at the union of the two objects, and a majority must be highly gratified; for many of the subscribers to the Temperance Advocate, contributed more to aid the cause of temperance, than to receive any further light upon that subject. I propose in this communication to call the attention of Planters in South Carolina, to the cultivation of Grasses; more for the object of receiving instruction, and to excite inquiry, than to teach others upon that branch of farming. For I confess that I have very little experience upon that subject; yet I have learned enough to be convinced, that in the present situation of our State, it is a subject of deep interest to the Planters of South Carolina. It is now generally admitted, that South Carolina must raise her own stock, or lay waste her lands and expend a considerable part of her staple article to purchase stock. To effect this object profitably, or most successfully: am convinced, that we must enter largely into the cultivation of perenial Grasses. The lower country may, yet, by proper measures, effect the object by their canebrakes and wood-range—but the middle and upper country must now look altogether to their fields for food for horses, mules, cows and hogs. The root crop may afford a considerable saving of grain; yet it may be a question, when we take into consideration the amount of labor required to raise the root crop, and its exhausting effects upon our lands, whether any saving is realized in the end. But a more insurmountable objection to the root crop is, that the labor required, unavoidably comes in the way of the cultivation or gathering of the Cotton crop.

Root crops that require to be sowed in the summer or fall, (such as Turnips, &c.) may afford a saving of labor; but root crops, which require cultivation in the spring, are out of the question, with a Cotton Planter. From my experience, I think the green rye as pasture, is far more profitable to the Cotton Planter in raising stock, than the root crop. But even the time of seeding the rye crop annually, interferes with the gathering of the cotton crop. We therefore need a perennial grass, which will only require sowing once for years to come; and to answer the purposess of the Kentucky *blue-grass*, as food for horses, mules, cows, and hogs. We may then raise all our stock, and more cotton than we now produce. This is the very thing we now need, to redeem our wasted lands, and by raising stock and manuring, still increase the production of our cotton. And now, I ask, why will not the Kentucky *blue grass* flourish in our State? Our climate is more favorable to winter or early spring vegetation, than more Northern latitudes. But it is said, that our soil is not adapted to the *blue-grass*; that it requires a calcareous, loamy soil, &c. So it was said of the *wire* or *joint grass*, which will even grow luxuriantly upon sand hills, or clay hills, upon dry land or in a branch of running water, and even without soil, in the bottom of a gully or ditch; and which our Cotton Planters dread as their invincible enemy. Notwithstanding, I have not only learned how to conquer it; but consider it so valuable, that I am planting it for hogs. This however, I will write more about hereafter, and give a few facts in evidence. The Kentucky *blue-grass* is the present subject of inquiry. A distinguished Botanist, the Rev. M. A Curtis, of N. Carolina, writes in the Farmers Register, in a late number, that it grows spontaneously in many parts of North

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* ÆGERIA EXITIOSA—*Description. Male.*—*Body*, steel-blue: *antennæ* ciliated on the inner side, black, with a tinge of blue: *palpi*, beneath, yellow: *head* with a band at base, both above and beneath, pale yellow: *eyes* black-brown: *thorax* with two pale yellow longitudinal lines, and a transverse one behind, interrupted above, and a spot of the same color, beneath the origin of the wings: *wings* hyaline, nervures and margin steel-blue,—which is more dilated on the costal margin, and on the anastomosing band of the superior wings: *feet* steel-blue, the coxæ two bands on the tibiæ including the spines, incisures of the posterior tarsi, and anterior tarsi behind, pale yellow: *ab lomen* with two very narrow pale yellow bands, one of which is near the base, and the other on the middle: *tail* fringed, the fringe margined each side with white.

Female. Body very dark steel-blue, with a tinge of purple: *antenæ* destitute of cilliae: *palpi* beneath, black: *thorax* immaculate: *superior wings* steel-blue, without any hyaline spot: *inferior wings* hyaline, with an opaque margin and longitudinal line; the latter and the costal margin are dilated: *tergum* with the fifth segment bright reddish-fulvous.

Pupa with two semifasciæ of spines upon each of the segments, excepting the three terminal ones, which have a single row only.

Follicle brown, oblong-oval, composed of small pieces of bark and earth, closely connected together by the web of the animal. SAY.