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By M. MACLEAN.

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AGRICULTURAL.

HIGH CULTIVATION MOST PROFITABLE.

The following is an extract from a letter of E. Phinney, Esq. published in the transactions of the Essex Agricultural Society. Thousands of acres in this country are in annual cultivation, the fertility of which has been so exhausted, that the product will not pay for the first ploughing. To continue to work without improving them is the height of folly. By reducing the quantity, and concentrating the manure, the same yield might be obtained with half the force, and a good profit made, where labor is now thrown away. But how far is this system to be carried? How much money should a farmer lay out upon one acre before he begins to improve another? This will of course depend upon situation and circumstances. In the neighborhood of a city, where land is high, and a ready market afforded for vegetables, many of which can be crowded into a small space, it may be advisable to spend a hundred dollars upon the improvement of an acre. But to a farmer in the interior, whose land costs him eight or ten dollars an acre, we should say, divide it between two or three. It is more likely that thirty barrels of corn will be obtained from three acres, than twenty from one. The difference will more than pay for the extra work.

An ounce of fact is worth a pound of theory, and notwithstanding all we have seen and read of "extraordinary yields," we have observed, that your steady, prosperous farmer, was generally your six or eight barrel man. When you hear of one who has made "at the rate" of fifteen or twenty barrels to the acre, it is generally done upon the tenth of an acre; if effected upon a larger scale, and the cost is counted, the experimenter is ready to exclaim with Pyrrhus, "one such achievement more, and I am undone." We of course refer to those products obtained by imparting artificial fertility to worn-out land.

There is certainly a stopping point of expenditure per acre, and we believe, in a greater part even of our poor land, that it is a long way this side of a hundred dollars. Nevertheless, we shall be glad if Mr. Phinney's observations shall have the effect of stimulating our farmers to the true point; there is no great danger, yet awhile, of their going beyond it.

So, Planter.

The question is often asked, How can farming be made profitable? I answer, by liberal manuring, deep and thorough ploughing, and clean culture. I will venture to affirm, without fear of contradiction, that no instance can be cited, where a farmer who has manured his grounds highly, made a judicious use of the plough, and cultivated with care, has failed to receive an ample remuneration for the amount invested—any, more, that has not received a greater advance upon his outlay than the average profit derived from any other business. One great difficulty is, that most farmers seem not to be aware of the fact, that the greater the outlay, to a reasonable extent, when skillfully applied, the greater will be the profit; they, therefore, manure sparingly, plough shallow, and the consequence is, get poorly paid for their labor. This has raised a prejudice and given a disinclination to the business of farming, especially among those who are in the habit and are desirous of realizing something more from their occupation than a naked return of the amount expended.

The farmer who is so sparing of his manure that he can get but thirty bushels of corn from an acre, gets barely enough to pay him for the expense of cultivation; and in addition to this, by the ordinary method of ploughing, his field, at each successive rotation, is deteriorating, his crops becoming less, and in a few years he finds he must abandon his exhausted and worn-out fields, to seek a subsistence for himself and family in some other business, or in some other region, where the hand of man has been less wasteful of the bounties of nature.

Instead then of his scanty manuring of ten cart loads to the acre, which will give him but thirty bushels of corn, let him apply thirty loads. This additional twenty loads, at the usual price of manure in this part of the country, will cost him thirty

dollars. But he now, instead of thirty bushels of corn, gets sixty bushels, and the increased quantity of stover will more than pay for the excess of labor required in cultivating and harvesting the large crop over that of the small one. He has then added thirty bushels of corn to his crop by means of twenty loads of manure, which at the usual price of one dollar per bushel, pays him in the first crop for his extra outlay. His acre of land is laid to grass after taking off the corn, and the effect of his twenty loads of additional manuring, will be to give him, at the lowest estimate, three additional tons of hay in the three first years of mowing it, worth fifteen dollars a ton standing in the field. Now look at the result. His thirty dollars expended for extra manuring was paid for in the first year's crop, and at the end of three years more he will have received forty-five dollars profit on his outlay of thirty dollars; and in addition to this, his land is improved, and in much better condition for a second rotation.—There is no delusion in this. It is a practical result, of the reality of which any farmer may satisfy himself, who will take the trouble to try the experiment.

From no item of outlays can the farmer derive so ample and so certain a profit, as from his expenditures for manure to a certain extent. This has been most strikingly verified by some of our West Cambridge farmers. It is not uncommon among some of our farmers in that town, to put on their grounds one hundred dollars' worth of manure to the acre, and in more instances than one, the gross sales of produce from ten acres under the plough, have amounted to five thousand dollars in one season. This is the result of high manuring and judicious cultivation of a soil too which is exceedingly poor and sandy.

From the Farmers' Cabinet.

COOKING FOOD FOR STOCK.

At length a due regard to the importance of cooking food for stock seems to be awakening up amongst us, and many are the inquiries for the best mode of conducting the process—whether by steaming or boiling—as also for the best and most convenient and economical apparatus for the purpose. Steaming has generally obtained the preference in the estimation of those who have been cogitating on the subject, but I am inclined to believe that when it becomes generally practised, boiling will be preferred, and chiefly for these reasons:—first, all articles may be properly and easily cooked by boiling, but not by steaming—witness cabbage, meat, and the flesh of animals, that might often be devoted as food for hogs, under circumstances that would not warrant its use for man. And, second, the water in which these and all other articles are boiled will be found to contain a very large portion of their essence: consequently, it ought to be retained for use; the opinion that the water in which potatoes have been boiled is deleterious, being without foundation. And in this a quantity of meal should always be boiled for the whole of the time the operation is going on, when, at the end, the soup will be of greater importance, as an article of food, than any steaming could be made to produce—the dead carcass of a sheep, for instance, with a dozen large heads of cabbage cut fine, and a bushel or two of corn and cob meal stewed together in a couple of hogheads of water, until the whole forms an amalgam—what could constitute a more luxurious repast to fattening hogs? and in a proper apparatus the cooking could be performed slowly and effectually for a very trifling cost of fuel. Then, again, the cooking of cornstalks—how much better could this be done by boiling, when a small quantity of corn and cob meal might be added, and a thick soup prepared that, with a small quantity of cut hay mixed, would form altogether the most palatable food either for cows or horses. There appears to me no question which would be the best mode of preparing cut food, while those who advocate steaming seem to have been misled by the consideration that it is a quicker mode of proceeding. Mr. Editor, all our proceedings are marked by a hurry that would almost deserve the name of recklessness—we cannot be content to do a thing well, it must be done quickly and cheaply and often indeed without regard to any other consideration. It is granted that steaming may be made a quicker process, but by properly constructed boilers working in pairs, according to a plan that has been proposed a sufficient quantity of food for a very large stock of cattle and hogs could be prepared by a lad of fifteen, the cost of labor being more than repaid even by the superior quality of manure produced—a consideration which some of our friends might designate as a trading in trifles—well, be it so; I am sure that the manure prepared by such a process would be found very essential to the raising of heavy crops.

I find that Mott's portable cast-iron furnaces are getting much into vogue for this purpose; they are very convenient and economical, but it is objected that their egg-shaped bottom robs the boiler of its capacity, and is not the best form to economize fuel. The patent consists in enclosing a common iron boiler in a cast-iron jacket, by which the heat is given out, and not retained, as is the case when boilers are set in brick-work; iron being a

conductor of heat—brick a non-conductor. If, therefore, any one having a boiler were to surround it with a sheet of thin boiler-iron bent into circular form and riveted, leaving a space between it and the boiler about two inches wide, for the heat and smoke to pass, and build up his bricks against it, he would find a great saving of time as well as fuel to arise from the alteration. At all events, the cooking of food for stock, by some mode or other, ought to be adopted, by which an additional profit could be obtained without an additional outlay of capital—an important consideration.

JOSIAH KENT.

GOVERNOR'S MESSAGE, NO. 1.

EXECUTIVE DEPARTMENT
COLUMBIA, NOVEMBER 29, 1842.
Fellow Citizens of the Senate,
and House of Representatives:

Coming as you do, fresh from the bosom of the People, imbued with the highest and latest confidence of your constituents; guided by an enlightened perception of their interests, and heedful of the aspect of recent events, the occasion may be regarded as favorable as it is important, to invite your attention to some of the means of promoting the weal and prosperity of the State and its institutions.

Among the most obvious and the most useful, are, doubtless, an effective preparation for defence, in our military organization and munitions of war; the diffusion of the advantages of a liberal and enlightened education; the improvement of the morals of our people; the judicious regulation of our currency; the development of the sources, and an equalization of the burdens of revenue; the encouragement of agricultural industry and improvement; and, finally, the attraction of the talent, patriotism, and aspirations of our citizens, to the performance of the highest duties and obligations of their allegiance; by dignifying and elevating her official stations, (and thereby improving their opportunities of usefulness,) to a standard worthy of the highest intellect, as well as the most honorable ambition.

Happily for our interest, the wisdom of the late legislature has provided the most ample and permanent means for improving one of these enumerated and essential resources of our strength, our peace, and our security. The now complete organization of our militia, accompanied by a judicious and intelligible digest of all the acts regulating it, together with the restoration of the practical opportunities of improvement afforded by the camp drill, has more than realized its anticipated benefits, and presents us in an attitude of defence, to command the respect of the world. Its influence has aroused the spirit and the emulation of our officers, inspired a sense of duty in our soldiery, and animated the patriotism and confidence in all our people. Built upon the experience of more than forty years, since the first organization of our militia system—deduced from the accumulated labors and opinions of many of our ablest and most efficient officers—the deliberate result of the popular will, and reflected by the firm convictions of two legislatures, it ought to be regarded with a sacred veneration, which no supposed perception of slight imperfections or inconveniences, should ever induce us to abandon, or to innovate.

No scepticism in the morals, or patriotism, or capacity of the people for self-government, is more dangerous or unjust, than that which depreciates and derides their ability for self-defence. If, in the absence of all constitutional power to retain a standing military force, the States of this Union possess no means but that of a polemical argument to maintain their rights as sovereigns, those rights would indeed be found to be vain, shadowy, and unprofitable before the arbitrament of an armed federal potentate. In our late contest with federal power, it was not to the mere efficacy of its laws, or the sanctity of its ordinances—to the justice of her cause, or the strength of her arguments—but to the uplifted arms of her citizens, ready to strike in her defence, that the State looked at last for protection. And were the dangers of the past to recur, or the unfavorable forebodings of the future to be realized, it is to the bold hearts and nerves and disciplined patriotism of the militia, that South Carolina would again appeal, as the first to feel and to sympathize for her wrongs, and as the only finally available source of defending her. Occupying this important relation to the State, they have asked and received from her confidence and liberality, the means and the opportunities, of acquiring all the accomplishments, as well as performing all the toils, of their laborious vocation. No capricious spirit of change—no servile deference to popular clamors—no ignominious homage to party pride or interest—no deluded sense of security—I trust, will ever induce you to revoke it.

It affords me a similar satisfaction, to report the favorable condition and adequate supply of our arms, arsenals, and

munitions of war. Procured at an expense to the State of not less than half a million, and requiring an annual appropriation of twenty-four thousand dollars, or their care and supervision, as well as for the indispensable police duties incident to a military depot, they necessarily occupy an important portion of the solicitude of the Executive, to whose control they are almost exclusively subjected. Under this responsibility, I instituted an investigation, to ascertain if no part of this annual burden on the treasury could be judiciously dispensed with. The result of a minute and dispassionate inquiry soon satisfied me of the fallacy of this expectation. A ruinous neglect of arms, ordnance, and military stores, to the value of more than half a million—the danger arising from the neglect or injudicious care of powder, to the amount of more than fifty thousand pounds, (with the addition of the entire supply of the city, allowed by law, and required by the regulations of council, to be deposited in our magazines)—and the dilapidation and decay of our valuable and costly buildings would, of course, ensue, and prove in its results, the most unprofitable of all systems of economy, and could not be regarded as a policy which a people, vigilant of their rights, and provident of the public weal, would approve. The value and utility of these military institutions, demonstrated as they are by time, by experience, and by emergencies that must again recur, are, however, but secondary in their importance, to the necessity of providing adequate protection for their defence, in the midst of a population like ours. In either view, not a dollar's expense could be safely or judiciously diminished,—not a supernumerary discharged,—not a man, or an officer, who does not occupy an important post, and perform an indispensable duty. And after an investigation, conducted in all the zeal and spirit of reform, I am irresistibly led to the conviction, that a wise or prudent retrenchment is practically impossible.

Under this impression, I have contemplated the expediency of combining the original duties and purposes of these institutions, with a system of education, which, in the attainment of two objects of such primary importance to the safety and prosperity of the State, would amply compensate for the liberal and munificent expenditures which she has hitherto incurred, in maintaining one only. I am more especially encouraged to hope for your co-operation in promoting this view, from the favorable manner in which it was received by your predecessors—from the almost universal approbation of our fellow-citizens—and from the very satisfactory success of the short and limited experiment, which it was within my official discretion to institute.

Requiring no additional appropriation—supplied as our arsenals now are, with officers whose qualifications, both moral and scientific, for instruction or command, are unsurpassed, if equalled, in any similar institution in the Union—affording a standard of education, as they may, immeasurably beyond our free schools, and inferior only to our colleges—annually diffusing light and intelligence to more than fifty of our youthful citizens—and all this without a single detracting circumstance, either in the safety or the preservation of the public arms, or in the amount or fidelity of the services rendered to the State, I cannot conceive any possible objection to the change which it is now proposed to introduce. The experience of other States, under great disadvantages, and at a very considerable expense, has not only conduced to the continuance of their fostering patronage of similar institutions, but to the gratifying conviction, that they are among the most useful and instructive of all their seminaries of learning.

It would be enough, to determine the advantages of the alterations proposed, (and which have been partially commenced,) to contrast the usefulness of more than fifty of our most promising young citizens; educated in the service of the State, with the ennobling consciousness of having paid for that education by their services; going abroad under the first feeling of a proud and manly independence, to occupy their high places in society; imbued with a State patriotism, as the nurselings of her institutions; combining the enterprise and decision of a military character, with the acquirements of their scholastic opportunities; dispensing knowledge and intelligence through all the vocations of life which they are destined to fill; and perhaps most usefully, and appropriately diffusing them, as the instructors of succeeding generations. With this view of the effects and influence of these institutions upon the morals and happiness, as well as upon the safety of the State, we have but to contrast the indiscriminate enlistment of many of the most profligate, licentious, and abandoned of society—men without local attachments—the indolent, intemperate, and depraved—outcasts from society, and

sometimes fugitives from justice, whose crimes impel to this last resource for employment, whose passions prompt to the first occasion of treachery or insubordination, and whose character, however temporarily subdued by the restraints of discipline, can never be reclaimed, or fitted for the duties and obligations of useful citizens.

I should be unjust, however, were I not to add, that there are many honorable and distinguished exceptions to this general depravity of character and of morals. But were the benefits derived by the State, from the former and the proposed mode of performing the police duties of her arsenals, precisely equal in other respects, who can hesitate as to the wisdom and propriety of adding the advantages of a liberal and moral education, to the military services which she requires, when both may be accomplished at the same expense? If the education of our indigent poor be indeed an object commensurate with the annual expenditure of thirty-six thousand dollars, would it not be unwise to omit this opportunity of adding (without burden to the people, or draft on the Treasury, and with the most gratifying assurance of much more useful results,) twenty-four thousand more, to promote the objects of that benefaction?

The discretion now vested in the Executive by law, is deemed sufficient to effectuate the arrangements to which I have alluded. But other legislative provisions are necessary to perpetuate them, beyond the fluctuating contingencies arising out of Executive discretion, and perhaps, to impart that strength, permanency, and dignity, which State confidence and patronage always confer.

The interesting reports of the Commandants in charge of those posts, with the views of the Adjutant General, are herewith submitted, and will be found, I trust, to furnish that full and satisfactory information, which the enlightened experience and observation of such sagacious and competent officers may be supposed to supply.

The unprofitable use of the annual appropriations of the State to establish a system of public instruction, constitutes another strong inducement to prosecute an experiment, which promises, by its fruits, to form one exception, at least, to the hitherto entire and unmitigated failure of all her efforts to educate her indigent youth. If the success of these institutions should form the basis of future and important improvements, which may be judiciously extended to our free schools; if they should supply better teachers from their alumni; if they should suggest higher standards and better systems of morals and tuition; or if they only awaken greater ardor in the people, and a warmer interest in our rulers, to advance the cause of education; they will achieve more for the weal and honor of our State, than all the other labors and appliances of our government could in any other manner confer.

In the meantime, I cannot too seriously repeat the invocation of my last annual Message, to remedy some of the glaring defects and unprofitable results of our Free School system. Is there nothing to awaken your attention, or dissatisfy your hopes, in the facts, developed by the statistics of the late federal census, that more than twenty thousand of the adult citizens of this State, have not even received the advantages of an imperfect education? Is it nothing, that this uneducated portion of our population exceeds that of any other State in the Union (except one), while at the same time our expenditures have been proportionately greater? Is it nothing, that after an experience of more than thirty years, and an expenditure of more than a million and a half on Free Schools, their benefits should have been so unprofitably dispensed? that a research into the statistics of the State exhibits so melancholy a result—such a blenish on the age in which we live—so benighted a condition of so large a portion of our population, and so depraved and extensive an abuse of the munificence and liberality of the State. I, therefore, respectfully reiterate the recommendation of the appointment of a supervising officer, whose wisdom and experience, after a year's exclusive devotion to that subject, will unquestionably enable him to present many valuable suggestions on which to base judicious and efficient legislation.

One of the greatest difficulties hitherto existing to the successful operation of a uniform and practical system of Free Schools, has arisen from the influence of climate and population, on the health, requirements, and opportunities, of different portions of the State. In the interior and upper districts, the establishment of a public school within the square of every six miles, would not only be generally practicable, but would perhaps be eminently expedient and useful; even if carried to the extent of substituting an entire system of education at the expense of the public treasury. The causes which would render it inconveniently impracticable on

the sea-board, are too obvious to require enumeration. But while the observation of a supervising officer would suggest the ordinary correction of many existing abuses and defects, his experience may at the same time enable him to devise, and submit to your consideration, some system more happily varied and accommodated, to the diversified requirements and circumstances of every portion of the State. He would, indeed, be the greatest of all benefactors to our age and State, whose labours and researches should develop some mode of rendering the application of this fund proportionably profitable and useful. If, in the view of establishing an entire and uniform system of public education, our State revenue was even obliged to be increased, at least a third of its present amount; still, by diffusing its advantages within the reach of every man's dwelling and family, it would perhaps more than compensate for any additional burdens which it might be supposed to impose on the people, by diminishing the heavy and indispensable expenses of board and instruction, which necessarily enter into every computation of domestic economy; and which, oppressive as they are to the rich, operate as an exclusion of light and knowledge to the poor. Even as a question of economy, therefore, it may perhaps be satisfactorily demonstrated, that it would produce the greatest results, with the least expense, both to the State and the citizen. And while, according to our present system of taxation, its burdens would devolve chiefly on wealth, it would, at the same time, diminish the contributions, which are now extorted from the rich, to obtain a more imperfect erudition abroad, and would practically extend the benefits of a liberal, and even of a classical education, within every man's means, family, and opportunities. Thus, would the factitious distinctions of rank in society be obliterated, by the moral elevation of all classes, to the same high standard of knowledge and intelligence. Thus, would the association and affinity of ingenious youth in the same seminaries of learning, reciprocally exercise a beneficial influence on the minds and morals of each other, and result in the formation of a high national and democratic character and feeling. And thus, with less expense to the opulent, with no burthen to the poor, would the blessings and advantages of the best system of education, be universally diffused, to indigence as well as to wealth; from the grammar school, to the college; from the first rudiments of learning, to the latest and highest developments of science and philosophy.

Contrasted with these just causes of dissatisfaction, as to the benefits and application of the Free School fund, we may contemplate with a pride and gratification proportionate to its eminent usefulness and success, the continued results of the liberal and enlightened patronage bestowed upon our College. The most magnificent of all our State endowments—the most honorable of all its benefactions—the most useful of all its institutions—the most imperishable monument of its wisdom and liberality—its continued and uninterrupted career of success and prosperity, even amidst the unusual disadvantages of the present year, cannot but be a source of the most heartfelt gratification to its official patrons. Adding its annual tribute of learning to the general intelligence of the State—the perennial source of its literature, its erudition, and its eloquence—contributing its successive generations of enlightened youth to commence their ardent career of usefulness and of honor, and to occupy their distinguished places in society—we have just reason to exult in the unabated prosperity which it manifests, in the number, the morals, and the acquirements of its students, and in the zeal, erudition, and judicious management of its faculty. Receiving an amount less than half the annual endowment bestowed on Free Schools, the benefits of a single year; the attainments of a single class; the acquirements of one only of its ripe scholars; the fruit of a single one of those great minds, whose energies it has developed; would not only compensate for all the patronage which has hitherto been extended to it, but is immeasurably more valuable to the State, than the results of all her other benefactions to advance the progress of education. Under the recent benevolence of a venerated head—contending with all the embarrassments of a pro tempore appointment of its presiding officer—an appointment most heavily imposing the arduous responsibilities of the office, without its corresponding dignity, and authority—it is a subject of joyful surprise and congratulation, that its affairs have been so ably and satisfactorily conducted.

All our projected works of internal improvement being now in a state of completion, it devolves upon you to consider the means of instituting some permanent and necessary arrangement for their security and preservation. Whether the duties hitherto discharged by the Superintendent, may not be devolved, without detriment to the public service, on district Commissioners, the Comptroller General, or the Executive; or whether the interest of the State in these works cannot be advantageously disposed of, are subjects worthy of your deliberations. In the Charters of Roads, Bridges, and Ferries, usually granted to Compa-