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The *Rocky Mountain Husbandman* is designed to be, as the name indicates, a husbandman in every sense of the term, embracing in its columns every department of Agriculture, Stock-raising, Horticulture, Social and Domestic Economy.

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AGRICULTURAL.

The following essay upon the agricultural and stock-growing advantages of Montana, was read by the editor of this paper at the last session of the Territorial Grange:

Montana, the most isolated of the American States and Territories; remote from the seaboard; without the great iron thoroughfares which are the equalizers of sections; her only great natural highway, the Missouri river, navigable only a few months in the year; traversed by lofty chains of snow white mountains; to the casual observer is possessed of but few inducements to the husbandman. But attracted hithed by a thirst for the precious metals with which her gulches and mountains abound, we have found her valleys to be fertile and capable of yielding as rich returns for labor as any portion of the Union. With a climate more healthy and less rigorous than any country of her latitude; pasture lands in quantity and quality unexcelled; and thousands of rivulets, brooks, and rivers, affording unlimited water power, we have facilities not elsewhere to be found. Yet with all these natural advantages, our agricultural population are not enjoying so great a degree of prosperity as in less favored localities.

Let us develop our resources and utilize our water-powers by the erection of manufacturing. We need a paper mill to work up our rubbish. A beet sugar manufactory to supply our wants in that line, and a woolen mill to convert our wool into fabrics.

By a proper disposition of our products, the market can be greatly strengthened and increased. Besides the increase of consumers occasioned by the erection of manufacturing, such as would yield a handsome income and at the same time lessen the rates of living; by a greater diversity of crops and careful attention to horticulture, we can better supply our wants and thus save the cost of transportation on many articles, as well as furnish us more employment. Bacon and pork should be produced at home. Corn for breadstuff, which is regarded as a luxury here, can, in many localities, be raised profitably. A great many varieties of small fruit can be grown, in great quantity and of superior quality—yet we are supplied entirely with a foreign article.

We see no good reason why, by proper attention to the acclimation of trees, large fruits cannot be grown with as much success as in our sister states of like temperature.

But what is most needed at present is that we study more closely and reduce more thoroughly to practice, the science of agriculture. Cultivate a less number of acres and do it better; summer fallow our lands, or by the use of fertilizers, keep them up to their original capacity; study the science of irrigation—how to water and how often, to obtain the best results. The introduction of artesian wells would be valuable, and in many instances prove less expensive than long canals. Give more attention to stock

in winter. Provide food and shelter; remembering the principles of our Order, to protect the dumb animals from abuse. Shelter them from the driving storm. While stock thrive and retain their flesh in newly settled districts, in thickly settled portions of the country, where the range is impoverished during summer, feed and shelter should be provided. No stock-grower should pasture his winter range during summer, but the high altitudes where the snow lies deep in winter should be used, and will be when economy in range is required to be exercised. Much loss could have been prevented the past winter by a little preparation. In the future, therefore, let us profit by experience. Feed cutters can be had at reasonable rates, and a current wheel in any of our streams would afford sufficient power and at trifling expense, to prepare the choicest food for beef and dairy animals. But always brings a good price in winter, and in early spring when beef is scarce—when the demand cannot be supplied from the frontier by reason of impassible snowy ranges—our farmers who engage in stock-raising on a small scale can find an easier and more profitable market for stall fattened cattle. By converting our products into beef, we would more effectually exemplify our principles of marketing on the hoof, and find it easier to drive to market on foot than to wheel it in the bushel.

Let us build up a sure and steady market; organize a simple, practical, yet complete system of co-operation; attend properly to our educational interests; replenish our libraries with useful books, and our minds with practical knowledge; give the youths and maidens of our land a thorough agricultural education; learn them the duties of husbandman and matron; beautify our homes—they will love them—we will be happy, and our brethren from the crowded east will come and take fortune with us.

It is necessary that our noble Order become co-existent with the agricultural population of the Territory; that neighborhood jealousies be laid aside, and that we meet in the grange room as brothers and sisters; that sectional strife be buried, and that we meet in Territorial capacity as one people, looking to the interests of all.

To accomplish this; to aid in the dissemination of information peculiar to our locality; to furnish us with the best and latest information, and our sons and daughters with practical truths, and to enable ourselves to confer with each other upon all subjects of material interest, and profit by each other's experience; to proclaim to the world our many advantages, and thereby encourage immigration, it is necessary that we have a first-class agricultural newspaper. As patrons, we could work together more intelligently, co-operate to a better advantage, and could learn more of each other and our fraternal trust be strengthened.

WHITE WHEAT--THREE VARIETIES.

What is wanted by the farmer who depends on his farm for a living, and who has no time or money to invest in experiments, is a sort of wheat that has been tried in this climate and soil, and is found to be adapted to them. Such a wheat is the Seneca or Clawson, as it is also called, a white wheat which originated with a farmer named Clawson, of Seneca county, New York, seven years ago. In its earlier days, it was named by a Pennsylvania seedsman, "Early May Red Chaff White" wheat, for the abolition of which lengthy names thanks are due to somebody. The same wheat has also been called Eureka, but public favor seems to be concentrating on Seneca as the future name for it.

The Seneca is a white wheat, with smooth head, red chaff, and long straw; a thrifty grower and thoroughly hardy. It came through the trying time of last winter, both in Canada and the United States, in better condition than any other variety that we

know of. It is from ten days to a fortnight earlier than varieties now in use. The yield is larger than that of the common kinds, many instances being recorded where, in the same field and under the same treatment, the Seneca has yielded thirty-five bushels against the twenty bushels of the Diehl, Fultz, Treadwell or Mediterranean. For those of our farmers who want a reliable wheat—one that it is safe to tie to—the Seneca is the thing.

The Tappanmooch wheat is a white, beardless variety, originating in Virginia and sent out by the United States Department of Agriculture a few years since. We know of but one instance of it having been tried in Canada; in that case it proved very successful, having stood last winter well and having ripened very much earlier than neighboring sorts. In earliness it is claimed by growers in Ohio, New York, Vermont and Michigan to be two or three weeks ahead of Diehl and other common sorts. The straw is short and stiff, rendering it not liable to lodge. The head is heavy, and the grain is large and gives a superior quality and yield of flour.

The Silver-chaff is another new wheat, well thought of across the line, but not yet much known in Canada. It is a white wheat with white chaff, and medium straw; it has a long, smooth head, with large grains. A peculiarity about it is, that its flower extends about three-quarters of an inch from the head when in bloom. This gives it a silvery look, from which it derives its name. The Silver-chaff originated in New York State. It is claimed to be perfectly hardy, having been tried alongside of other varieties, and to have come out of the winter as well as any of them.

There is every probability from all the information we can glean that both the Tappanmooch and the Silver-chaff will prove valuable acquisitions. We recommend those farmers who are disposed to experiment, to try these varieties.—*Canada Farmer*.

A correspondent in Outagamie county, Wis., has ascertained from the threshers that in that county the varieties of wheat have yielded at the rates stated: Diehl wheat, 34 bushels per acre; Fultz and Russian wheat (lately imported from Russia by a miller at the village of Neenah), each 33 bushels. The latter is a white wheat, said to be equal to the Fultz in standing the winter, and, therefore, thought to be preferable. The variety of spring wheat producing the largest yield was the Canada Club—33 bushels per acre.

A CORRESPONDENT of *Colman's Rural World* says the Alpha potatoe is the best variety in cultivation. It matures fit for table us fifteen days earlier than the Eearly Rose. He describes it as being of white color, fine grain, firm, dry and excellent in every respect. We notice an account in the *Gardener's Chronicle*, of an Englishman growing one hundred and twenty-one pounds of this variety from one pound of seed planted. A first-class certificate has just been awarded this potatoe by the Royal Horticultural Society, of London.

FRANKLIN county, Kansas, shipped some 25,000 bushels of castor beans the last season, the receipts for the same amounting to nearly \$100,000.

A LOT of plows and seed corn were shipped from Des Moines, recently, to an extensive Chinese planter, at Singapore, British India.

ON THE 3d of January, Michigan farmers were plowing their fields. On the 10th of January, they were using crowbars to dig the plows out of the furrows. Is it any wonder we all love America?

The *California Farmer* says Alfalfa, of Lucerne is being planted in the State by the tens of thousands of acres.

FLORICULTURE.

FLOWER GARDEN.

Tree and shrub planting may be continued as opportunity and weather permit; as a rule, all the evergreen tribe are best planted in early autumn, but deciduous trees from now to the end of February. Thorns, Lilacs, Laburnums, Syringas, Tulip-trees, Horse and Spanish Chestnuts, and other flowering trees are not planted in half such numbers as they ought to be. The rage for Conifers seems to have thrown them into the shade, and though this is a class of plants at all times worthy of admiration, the danger is that we shall soon have too much of a good thing. Herbaceous borders may now at any time be rearranged and trimmed up, dividing any kinds requiring it, and forking and manuring the grounds. Usually bulbs of many kinds are intermixed in these borders, and therefore the operator will require to use great care not to injure them: vacant spaces may be filled in with Anemones, Ranunculuses, Lilliums, and Gladioli, all of which do well if planted at this season. Plant Roses as soon as possible, if a bloom is expected next June. Deep rich alluvial loam, made rather firm, is the kind of soil in which Roses delight, but such not being always at command, the best substitute is to manure freely, and especially by surface mulching. Dahlias should be occasionally looked over, and kinds requiring to be increased be at once planted in pots or boxes, and put in heat. Cannas are invaluable plants for the "subtropical" garden; old roots of these may now be divided and started in gentle heat; a single crown will make a large plant by planting time. Also propagate for the same purpose Abutilon Boule de Nieve, A. Due de Malakoff and A. Thomsoni variegata, Aralia papyrifera and A. Sieboldii, Caladium esculentum, Dracena australis, Ficus elastica, and Phormium tenax. All the above are easy of propagation where a bottom heat of 64° and 60° top heat can be given. Seeds of the following can be raised with similar heat, and will, if sown now, make fine plants for putting out in the "subtropical" garden at the end of May: Aca-cia lophantha, Acanthus latifolia, Amaranthus soliceifolius, Chamæpeuce Casabona, and C. diacantha, Ferdinanda eminens, Melianthus major, Ricinus, many varieties; Solanums, ditto; Salvia argentea, Wigandia caracasana, W. macrophylla, and Zea Cuzko.—*Gardener's Chronicle*, Jan. 22.

WERE it not for the inconvenience and amount of care required to give the necessary protection, a great majority of the homes in our cities and country towns would doubtless, be made more attractive and cheerful, during the dreary months of winter, by the presence of beautiful plants and flowers.

A cheap and easy mode of protection, and one, too, which has proved effectual, as far as tried, except where the house is very cold or the weather extremely severe, is to place the plants at night, before the room has become cool, in a compact form on the floor or table, and then encircle them with a stiff board paper, such as is used for building purposes, of sufficient width to enclose the plants, making a top of the same material, or covering with carpets or blankets or both; also having cloths around the lower edge of the paper. Shielded in this way, the plants will go through unharmed, when water freezes in the room outside.

To give additional protection, a kerosene lamp may be set in the center, making an aperture above for the gas and smoke to escape. It is better to have a funnel extend from the aperture down to the lamp chimney, to prevent the heat from passing off, and the more readily to carry off the fumes of the burning oil, which would injure the plants.

MORE flowers are used in New York City in a day than London uses in a week.