

Whig & Chronicle.

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FIELD AND FARM.

To Plow or not to Plow.

A correspondent of the Prairie Farmer argues against the ancient practice of plowing. I am inclined to think non-inversion, complete pulverization and surface manuring that is the natural decay of vegetable growth is best for continued fertility.

I am satisfied of one thing, the man who will give us a machine that will cut and pulverize perfectly, mix soil and trash, will prove a public benefactor. I want that machine. The idea is not very popular as yet, but let us investigate; let us get at the facts.

Clover Turned Under.

Mr. J. Gregory a few years ago moved from Tennessee and bought a plantation in Murray county, Georgia. The land at the time he purchased it, with a good season, would produce ten bushels of wheat per acre.

Manuring Value of Wood Ashes.

A correspondent of the Country Gentleman writes an article on the fertilizing value of wood ashes. "Wood ashes," says the correspondent, "owes its value to the potash left after the land is burned over, as is the case also in breaking the prairie."

The Value of Red Clover as a Fertilizer.

A correspondent of the Southern Planter and Farmer says he has ascertained by fifty-four years' farm experience that red clover is the basis of all permanent improvement on Southern lands. If plaster acts well it should be plentifully supplied to the clover lands, and he never knew a good clover ley that did not make a good crop of wheat.

Facts Worth Remembering.

One thousand shingles laid four inches to the weather will cover one hundred square feet of surface, and five pounds of shingle nails will fasten them on. One-fifth more siding and flooring is needed than the number of square feet of surface to be covered, because of the lap in the siding and matching of the floor.

Special or General Farming.

It is said by those who advocate a great diversity of crops that its advantage lies in having a certainty upon some one of the many crops cultivated. On the other hand the benefit of special farming is that capital, labor and study can be concentrated upon one or more crops and greater profit secured.

The position we assume is that every farmer enhances his chances of success, who, having made a judicious selection of such branches of agriculture as he is best qualified to follow, secures land and a market adapted to his business, and devotes himself to his business in a business way for profit.

Sulphur for Fowls.

There is no remedy so easily and cheaply obtained, so harmless to the fowls, nor so satisfactory in its results, as sulphur. It being in the system as animals to a small degree, there is a greater affinity for it than there otherwise would be.

Keeping Manure.

The Boston Journal of Chemistry says that the sources of loss in the storage of manure are two, first, the escape of volatile ammonia and other gases, and secondly, the loss of valuable salts by leaching.

The Oldest Horse.

The Poughkeepsie Press gives an account of a horse owned by General Crogers, of West Point in 1840, and then of considerable age, remarkable as being the finest parake horse in the State.

Is Snow a Fertilizer?

The following is the opinion of the Agricola on this disputed subject: "Snow is a good fertilizer, because it is a bad conductor of heat, and in preserving plants from the cold renders the action of the manure contained in the soil more powerful.

Proper Mode of Feeding Horses.

The Massachusetts Plowman has the following: Every owner of a horse must have observed that the growth and strength and appearance of the horses' feet is materially affected by the position of the horse himself. A half-starved horse may have a foot injured by deficient nutrition; an over-fed horse may have a foot heated into an inflammation and so dependent is the foot upon a healthy state of the animal economy, that for the foot alone, if nothing else the diet of the horse should be regulated with the utmost regard to his health.

A Drawer's Right to Stop a Check.

The London Economist reports a late decision of the English Court of Exchequer Chamber as follows: "The decision is to the effect that a check is to be treated as any other bill of exchange, rendering the drawer liable to be sued upon it, if unpaid, by any bona fide holder, who is not affected by an 'equity' attaching to the party to whom or on whose account the check was given.

An Iowa Grange Succeeds.

COUNCIL BLUFFS, March 6.—Springville Grange, of Pottawattamie county to-day declared themselves free and independent from all authority of the National and State Granges, and that their connection therewith is dissolved. The grievance alleged was that the officers of these Granges had forfeited all confidence, mismanaged the finances, and otherwise wronged them.

A Detroit boy's composition.

"The horse runs; so does the gazelle; so does my nose."

MORRISTOWN ITEMS.

MORRISTOWN, March 10.

To the Editors of the Chronicle.

The "egg business" has been a lively one in our town for ten days past, one enterprising dealer having shipped about 100 barrels, containing on an average 65 dozen eggs to each barrel.

The municipal investigation is holding forth nightly at the courthouse, but as yet nothing has been discovered of an alarming nature.

The waters have subsided, and everybody is preparing to go to work. This is especially the case with farmers, who find the roads so bad that they can't go anywhere; so, perforce, they remain at home at work.

The "debt-moan" of our town are having things made pretty lively for them now. Unknown parties are racking their shanties almost every night, and they are finding it a difficult matter to get houses within which to live.

The "coming through" of the mails created a sensation, and everybody enjoyed the intelligence brought us from the outside world. Our people can appreciate railroads after having been deprived of their benefits for a few days.

Work on the "Buncombe," which was seriously damaged by the freshet, is being pushed forward with energy, and trains will soon go through regularly to Wolf Creek.

Your correspondent learns that the flood washed up some human bones of enormous size, on the farm of Caleb Crosby, who resides on the north bank of the Holston, just below Marshall's Ferry. The bones of one of the skeletons is said to be of unusual size, and is supposed to have been that of a man fully seven feet in height. It is not known from what point they come.

Our people are anxious about the passage of the option liquor law by the Legislature, but our Senators are so slow, that many of us are losing faith. Can't you stir them up on this question?

Yours, NINO HARRIS.

Keeping Manure.

The Boston Journal of Chemistry says that the sources of loss in the storage of manure are two, first, the escape of volatile ammonia and other gases, and secondly, the loss of valuable salts by leaching. The first difficulty may be obviated by covering the excrement with eight or ten inches of good soil or loam, which will absorb all escaping gases.

The Oldest Horse.

The Poughkeepsie Press gives an account of a horse owned by General Crogers, of West Point in 1840, and then of considerable age, remarkable as being the finest parake horse in the State. He was a model of beauty, large and powerful, long, silvery mane and tail. His age at that time is not known. General Crogers, on leaving West Point, sold the horse for a large sum to Martin Van Buren, and he used him as his favorite saddle horse, during his retirement in Kinderhook in 1844. In 1846, Mr. Van Buren and some of his friends presented "Old Tom" to a distinguished young officer in General Scott's command, and he was taken to Mexico. At the close of the war, General Scott had the horse returned to New York, and rode him frequently on parades. In 1851 he was purchased by the American Express Company in New York at a large price, to match a similar horse, and the pair were the admiration of the Express people. He was used there for five years, and then sent to Poughkeepsie, where "Old Tom" used to cart the express for ten years. While in the hands of the Express Company here, "Tom" had some narrow escapes. Once, in driving across the track at the depot, his foot caught fast in a frog, and a train approaching ran within a few feet of him before it was stopped. To extricate his foot, the entire frog and rail had to be taken up. In 1866, Tom began to show his old age, and the Express Company directed him to be sold to a party who would give him good care. Mr. Eastman was the purchaser, and for eight years "Old Tom" has been one of the attractions at Eastman's place. He has been in the harness nearly every day, and to all appearances is yet in his prime. His special work is drawing the lawn mower, and so well educated is he to the duty that he has frequently, for the gratification of lookers-on, been left to perform the work without driver or guide.

Cigars.

The average number of cigars smoked each hour in the United States is 5,168,000. During the last fiscal year the import duties on cigars amounted to \$6,150,000.41. The total amount of taxes on cigars in currency was \$35,242,875.62. Grand total, \$41,392,976.03. The increased taxes on cigars, which have just gone into effect, will doubtless in no wise lessen the consumption.

A Drawer's Right to Stop a Check.

The London Economist reports a late decision of the English Court of Exchequer Chamber as follows: "The decision is to the effect that a check is to be treated as any other bill of exchange, rendering the drawer liable to be sued upon it, if unpaid, by any bona fide holder, who is not affected by an 'equity' attaching to the party to whom or on whose account the check was given.

The recent death of the three brothers.

Delia died in this city, aged respectively eighty-one, eighty-three, and eighty-five, and their burial on the same day, has probably never been paralleled in this country, and perhaps not in the world. An instance somewhat similar, however, occurred in New Haven on the 19th of February last, when William C. Atwater, aged eighty-one, and his sister, Miss Martha Atwater, died on the same day, and the funeral of both took place at the same time on the Sunday following.

A lease for 999 years has just run out in England.

The land is at Woolwich, and was Church property a thousand years ago, but the Crown leased it for military purposes; it now reverts to the heirs of the original holders.

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CHANCERY COURT AT KNOXVILLE.

No. 257. O P Temple vs Susan Deese. IT APPEARING FROM THE BILL, WHICH is sworn to, that the defendant Susan Deese is a non-resident of the State of Tennessee, it is ordered that the defendant above named appear before the Chancery Court at Knoxville, Tennessee, on the first Monday in April next, 1875, and make defense to the bill filed in this cause, or the same will be taken for confessed. It is further ordered that this notice be published for four consecutive weeks in the Weekly Whig and Chronicle, March 17, 1875. A true copy-Attest: M. L. PATTERSON, C. & M. By W. A. GARRAITH, D. C. & M.