



Agricultural Progress.

For the progress that has been made in the practice of Agriculture, in the United States, within the last thirty years, the country is more indebted to the mechanic than to the farmer.

Farmers, generally, have been content to follow the practice of their fathers—apparently under the settled conviction that the business admitted of no further improvement. The progress that has been made in the art and practice of farming has been more the result of necessity, on the part of farmers in the introduction and use of the numerous valuable labor-saving machines, which the prolific genius of American Mechanics has produced, than from any desire to change their practice of farming, with the view, alone, to improvement. The mechanic, perhaps, is no better educated than the farmer, but his thoughts and inventive powers are constantly brought into action, in the exercise of his profession, and he naturally becomes self-educated. This opens the way for the invention of machinery for every department of manufacturing, as well as to facilitate and improve the various operations of farming.

What, for instance, has Whitney done for the planter, as well as the commercial world, by the invention of the cotton gin? In 1790 the production of cotton was but 3,500 bales, and in 1852 it amounted to 2,292,882 bales. This wonderful increase in the production of this great American staple, is due chiefly to this invention. Now the production and trade in cotton are said to control, in a great degree, the capital and commerce of the world.—Indeed, it has, with some truth, been said that "Cotton is King." What Whitney has done for the cotton planter hardly equals what the celebrated Arkwright achieved for the manufacturer.

But within the period assumed in the introduction of this article, the greatest improvement in Agricultural implements and machinery have been made, and with the exception of the plow, we may reduce the time to much narrower limits.

Until the improvement of Jethro Wood, of the present generation, the plows used by the American farmers were made generally by themselves, or by the country blacksmiths, in the rudest form, with wooden mouldboards, with two straight sticks, surmounted with a pair of cross horns, to serve as handles. With these plows it was difficult to turn a furrow more than four inches thick, while the plowing generally, throughout the country, did not exceed three inches in depth.

The invention of Jethro Wood, in substituting cast iron, for the wooden plow, brought into action a thousand minds, upon the subject, with the view to still further improvement, substituting wrought shares and points for the cast iron, and, at a still later date, polished steel took the place of iron, with corresponding improvements in the form of the plow, until, it would seem, that further improvement is almost impossible. These improvements in the plow have necessarily led to corresponding improvement in plowing.—Instead of imperfectly turning a furrow of but three inches in depth, as with the old plow, these improved implements will easily invert a furrow six or eight inches in thickness—pulverizing the soil in the most perfect manner.—What has been the result of this improvement in practice to the farmer? We answer, that in many soils the yield per acre, of crops in general, has been at least doubled, by affording deeper and more thorough pasturage for the roots of plants, while the waste of land, by washing, is far less than formerly. What is true of the plow in these respects may also be said of numerous other machines, now in daily use. We well remember when it was a very rare thing to meet with an iron toothed harrow. The ground, if harrowed at all, was very imperfectly done, and, as for a roller, such an implement was almost entirely unknown. With the plow of the present day, the harrow and the roller, such improvement may be made in the mechanical preparation of the soil, for all crops, as once led the great English farmer, Tull, to the mistaken conclusion that he had arrived at the ultimate limits of improved farming.

Another modern invention is the Wheat Drill, which is working a mighty revolution in wheat growing in this country. Like many other important inventions, the farmer is last to appreciate its merits, but its advantages have finally become known in certain neighborhoods, and the demand for them seems even to exceed that for the reaping machine.

In a late number of the Dayton (Ohio) Journal, it is stated that there are four manufacturing establishments in that flourishing city, that together, have made the present season, 2,900 wheat drills—worth \$192,000. These machines, it may be presumed have mostly gone into the hands of the

farmers. Four years ago, there was but one firm in that city which made them, and but few farmers, then, could be found willing to try them.—Experience has now established the fact, that the drilled wheat will yield from five to eight bushels more per acre, than that which is sown broadcast, besides a saving of 25 per cent in the quantity of seed sown. We think it will be within the truth, if we estimate the quantity of seed sown each year, with these 2,900 machines, at 100 acres each, making 290,000 acres, estimating the increase per acre obtained by the superior manner of seeding, secured by them, at the lowest estimate of 5 bushels per acre, it will amount to 1,450,000 bushels per acre. Add to this one peck of seed saved from each acre in drilling, which will make 74,000 bushels—making in all 1,524,000 bushels of wheat per annum gained by the farmers in the use of machines furnished in one year, by the manufacturers of a single city. In order to deposit the seed with these machines in a proper manner, every sensible farmer sees at once that the ground must be more thoroughly prepared, with a clean, pulverized surface, which extra labor is doubly rewarded by the increase of the crop.

Another great stride that has been made in modern times, in Agricultural progress, has been through the invention of reaping and mowing machines. Not only will one of these machines perform the work of eight or ten men, with the ordinary tools for harvesting, but, in order to avail himself of the advantages derived from the use of them, the farmer must necessarily prepare his land in a better manner for the operations of these machines, by removal of all obstructions, and in the more thorough and smooth preparation of the surface, which, besides the labor saved by the machines, the superior preparation of the land adds much to the quantity as well as quality of the crop.

These are some of the advantages that have been forced upon the farmer by the inventions of mechanics, which hardly touch the fundamental principles of improved scientific farming which are based more particularly upon a correct knowledge of a system of rotation of crops, manuring, land draining, etc., etc.

The advantages already gained by the farmers through the means that we have but imperfectly described, should lead them to investigate more generally, the principles of improved agriculture, and to apply these principles to their practice, in every department where improvement is possible. In order to do this they should study those works that go beyond the mere routine of plowing, planting and harvesting, under the delusive idea, that to obtain the most speedy returns, for the time being, is the most profitable farming.—Valley Farmer.

STRICTURES ON FARMING.

MEANS. EDITORS.—In my last I spoke of the proper cultivation of the mind—of the importance of farmers' having good agricultural books and papers, and also a library of the standard works of our language—treating on history, poetry, travels, the arts, sciences, etc., to enlighten the mind and ennoble the character. But this would not be the only effect. They would also cultivate and instruct the taste, and it is of taste that I shall speak in this number.

In nothing are the farmers more deficient, generally speaking than in taste. And every one of any observation must notice it and agree with me. Travel with me over the country, and how rarely will you find a farm homestead what it should be. Look at the buildings. Is that farm house what it might have been at no more cost?—How badly it is proportioned. The man who drew the plan had certainly never seen a work on architecture, and had no sense of proportion in his mind. He had no taste or you would see there an elegant residence, pleasing the eye of every beholder, and costing no more money. Every farmer who has the means to build him a fine house, mansion, or whatever you may please to call it, cannot make a better investment than to go to an architect, in one of our cities, tell him the size of the house he wants, number of rooms, etc., and get him to draw a plan and make the specifications. It is true it will cost twenty-five or fifty dollars, but what is that in comparison to having a neat, elegant, pleasing residence for one's lifetime. No money of the amount can be so well expended on the building. It is the profession of the architect to prepare plans for houses, and, of course he can do it far better than the farmers, whose attention has been directed to other things, who has had no experience in such business.—Every one for his particular trade and business should be the motto.

Many farmers, of abundant means, who might live in fine houses, still cling to their old uncomfortable tenements. How few good houses does one see throughout the country. Most of them are very poor, and good taste would cause the owners to build neat and substantial dwellings, everywhere. Then again how little taste is sometimes displayed in selecting the proper site for a dwelling. Sometimes, and too generally, it is put immediately on the road, when it would look far better

ter back some distance from the road, so as to allow a beautiful lawn in front, decorated with groups of ornamental trees, flowering shrubs, etc., etc. The house, if possible, should be on ground rising gently from the road. The barns, stables, cow yards, etc., etc., are too frequently in the front of the house, and certainly this is in awful bad taste. They should always be put back of the residence, so as to be out of sight—for no objects, but pleasing ones should be in front of the house. And the farmer of taste will always select such a situation as will afford the finest prospect—the most beautiful landscape. A pleasing prospect always before him must certainly have a refining influence upon his mind, as well as upon the minds of his family. Let no ungainly buildings or objects, then, be in front of your residence, but rather have flowers, beautiful trees, shrubs, etc. How often is the pleasing effect of a residence entirely destroyed, by being compelled to pass by the stable, or barn, cattle and hogs, etc., before stepping into the house. Good taste would teach one to remedy this.

Another error into which farmers and others have almost universally fallen, and which displays a most horrid taste, is cutting down all the trees around the house. Many farmers when preparing a place to build, first cut down and clear away, every tree, any where near where the house is to stand. It is a shameful thing to do it. The trees furnish shade in the hot days of summer, and afford great protection from the cold storms of winter. Don't cut down the trees, but plant more.—Nothing is more beautiful than trees. They protect one from the scorching suns of summer and the freezing blasts of winter.

If the means of the farmer enable him all his out buildings should be in keeping with his residence. We think nothing adds more to the beauty of the farm, than neat, well constructed out buildings. They please the eye, and evince that the owner is a man of taste—that he is a neat, prosperous farmer—that he cares for the animals under his charge, and wishes to furnish them the very best protection.

Much more might be said on the subject of taste as it applies to the farmer, in the proper laying out of his grounds, having the garden and orchard near to the house—not the kitchen garden in front of the house, but just back of it, or to one side of it, hidden from the house by a belt of evergreens. In laying out his lawn and pleasure grounds, if he can obtain a good landscape gardener it will add greatly to the beauty of his place. Evergreen trees are very beautiful in winter as well as summer and these should be planted in abundance in the yard and about the house if easily to be obtained. Of course it is not to be expected that every farmer will go to the expense of doing all here recommended but every farmer can do something to add to the beauty as well as value of his homestead.—Cor. Valley Farmer.

THE SEWING MACHINE.

From Emerson and Putnam's Monthly.

An editor is supposed to know every thing; to be possessed of the wisdom of a Solomon, and the patience of a Job; to be able to penetrate all matter, and comprehend all mystery; he must be elephantine in his touch, able to pick up the finest cambric needle, fit for the fingers of the finest lady, or to demolish (symbolically) palm-trees and tigers; and so it happens that we are in frequent receipt of letters from all parts of the country, relative to that wonderful invention known as the sewing machine, and we propose to say a word about the matter for the benefit of the subscribers to "Emerson's Magazine and Putnam's Monthly."

Our readers may recollect that we have more than once asserted in the columns of the "Studio" that machinery is the great human emancipator; that man is exempted from the bondage of toil by those inventions which supersede the use of bone and muscle; that where a piece of mechanism is made to do the work of 10 men, it employs but one, the other 9 are left to the choice of other pursuits. Formerly it was necessary to expend a month in traveling from Boston to New Orleans—now a man travels the distance, by railroad in a week; to transmit and obtain intelligence thither and back was the work of months—now, by means of the telegraph, a few hours suffice; so it is in every department of action; the steam plow, the steam mill, and innumerable inventions of every kind have so multiplied that man can almost stand aside, with his hands in his pockets, and see fire and water, wood and iron, do all his work for him.

It was not till very recently that woman has participated in the benefits of machinery. Her toil hitherto has been minute, incessant, and to the last degree exhausting to life. To say that it has been exhausting to patience would be almost too trite for utterance. Had Hood lived to see the general introduction of the sewing machine, he would never have written the "Song of the Shirt."

"Work—work—work!
While the cock is crowing aloof;
And work—work—work!
Till the stars shine through the roof!
It's o'—to be a slave
Along with the barbarous Turk,
Where woman has never a soul to save,
If this is Christian work!"

On the contrary, the song of the sewing machine would be as merry as the lark; and might be supposed to run in this wise:

Click—click—click!
While the cock crows loud and free,
And click—click—click!
Is a merry sound to me.
With bodice trim and neat,
I seam, and gusset, and band,
With my dainty slippered feet,
And a small, white-fingered hand.
Stitch, to the click of the steel,
And never an aching head,
While I turn the sliding wheel,
With the gleam of the silver thread.
Oh! woman, no more a slave
To seam, and gusset, and band,
Shall beautiful grow, and brave,
In the light of our happy land.

Thus much may be said of sewing machines in general; but we know, from actual experience, of only one, although we have watched patiently the operation of several, and believe that most of them are of value in some way or other. Of that known as the sewing machine of Messrs. Wheeler & Wilson we can speak with entire clearness and confidence. We have had one in use in our family for four years or more, since which period the toil of the household has been so greatly mitigated that we look upon the invention as one of the benefactions of the age. It is one which will constitute an era in the history of woman. What will be the result we will not predict; but that it has already set her free from the bondage of much that was wearisome and oppressive no one, we think, can doubt.

The machine constitutes a handsome piece of furniture for a lady's sewing-room; while all kinds of needlework, from the most delicate muslin to the heaviest broadcloth, can be done upon it, to say nothing of quilting as elaborately and beautifully done as any that ever graced the boudoirs of our grandmothers.

While one of the ladies of our family was hemming a gossamer full upon the machine, we overheard Bridget, who looked on in amazement, exclaim: "Endue, and to see the nice work done, and no hunting for the stitches, is what takes me!"

We might pursue the subject further were it necessary; but we can not forbear giving an anecdote which appears to us significant: A Southern lady wished to procure a seamstress, and went down to New Orleans, expecting to give ten or twelve hundred dollars for one entirely competent. A gentleman, who had seen the action of Wheeler & Wilson's machine for sewing in our family, being in New Orleans at the time, persuaded her to visit their agency in that city, and see whether machinery would not better supply her need. She did so, and purchased one, hiring a worker to go with her back to the plantation to teach the members of her household. The result was most gratifying—the lady having often declared that no money could purchase her if she could not procure another.

INDIANS OF MASSACHUSETTS.

The fragments of Indian tribes still lingering in Massachusetts—numbered in all some seven or eight hundred individuals—got an annual recognition by the State in the reports of the trustees and guardians appointed to look after their annuities. Charles Marston, trustee of the Marshpee Indians, some 320 in number, has expended for them in ten months of the present year \$1,172. He reports a decrease of intemperance among them. They have good schools, which are well attended. There has been much religious interest, under the labors of their missionary, Rev. S. Combs, and several have connected themselves with the church. For the Herring Pond Indians, 40 in number, \$383 were expended. They are in comfortable circumstances, have a missionary, Rev. Joseph Amos, and have just erected a meeting house costing \$1050. Charles Brigham, trustee for the Grafton Indians, reports the tribe almost extinct; he knows of but two families and a few scattering distant relatives. The Chappaquiddick tribe, residing at Christiantown, in Dukes county, are some 340 strong. Their guardian, Bernard C. Marchant, reports an expenditure of \$415 in their behalf. The Natick Indians have required assistance to the amount of \$89, which has been drawn from the treasury of their fund, which is now \$1,109.—Springfield (Mass.) Republican.

A lady of Boston, who has not lived with her husband for some time past, recently attended St. Paul's Church, in that city, and on quitting the house after the services, her husband, who was waiting for her at the door, robbed her of her cloak, shawl and muff, and would have taken her jewelry also, had not the bystanders interfered.

We are told that, at the height of three miles from the earth, the temperature is always the same. That's being above the weather. A great many people understand in these hard times what it is to be under it.

It has been said of the cloak of religion that it may be known sometimes by the fine nap it has in sermon time.

"I look down upon you, sir."
"Yes, you seem to be in a condition to look down for the sky, and feel upward for the ground."

JOURNAL ALMANAC FOR 1858.

MONTHS.	Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
JANUARY.	3	4	5	6	7	8	9
	10	11	12	13	14	15	16
	17	18	19	20	21	22	23
	24	25	26	27	28	29	30
FEBRUARY.	31						
	1	2	3	4	5	6	7
	8	9	10	11	12	13	14
	15	16	17	18	19	20	21
	22	23	24	25	26	27	28
MARCH.							
	1	2	3	4	5	6	7
	8	9	10	11	12	13	14
	15	16	17	18	19	20	21
	22	23	24	25	26	27	28
	29	30	31				
APRIL.							
	1	2	3	4	5	6	7
	8	9	10	11	12	13	14
	15	16	17	18	19	20	21
	22	23	24	25	26	27	28
	29	30	31				
MAY.							
	1	2	3	4	5	6	7
	8	9	10	11	12	13	14
	15	16	17	18	19	20	21
	22	23	24	25	26	27	28
	29	30	31				
JUNE.							
	1	2	3	4	5	6	7
	8	9	10	11	12	13	14
	15	16	17	18	19	20	21
	22	23	24	25	26	27	28
	29	30	31				
JULY.							
	1	2	3	4	5	6	7
	8	9	10	11	12	13	14
	15	16	17	18	19	20	21
	22	23	24	25	26	27	28
	29	30	31				
AUGUST.							
	1	2	3	4	5	6	7
	8	9	10	11	12	13	14
	15	16	17	18	19	20	21
	22	23	24	25	26	27	28
	29	30	31				
SEPTEMBER.							
	1	2	3	4	5	6	7
	8	9	10	11	12	13	14
	15	16	17	18	19	20	21
	22	23	24	25	26	27	28
	29	30	31				
OCTOBER.							
	1	2	3	4	5	6	7
	8	9	10	11	12	13	14
	15	16	17	18	19	20	21
	22	23	24	25	26	27	28
	29	30	31				
NOVEMBER.							
	1	2	3	4	5	6	7
	8	9	10	11	12	13	14
	15	16	17	18	19	20	21
	22	23	24	25	26	27	28
	29	30	31				
DECEMBER.							
	1	2	3	4	5	6	7
	8	9	10	11	12	13	14
	15	16	17	18	19	20	21
	22	23	24	25	26	27	28
	29	30	31				

NEW ARRANGEMENT

IN THE

RANDOLPH COUNTY JOURNAL.

New Proprietors!

New Editor!

New Type!

A New and Enlarged Series of the JOURNAL, to commence on

The First of the New Year!

Great Improvements to be made in the JOURNAL at the Old Price!

Great Inducements for New Subscribers!

C. D. SMITH having sold the undivided half of the JOURNAL and OFFICE to J. E. BEVERLY, the business of the concern will hereafter be conducted in the name and under the control of BEVERLY & SMITH.

And we would now beg leave to say to our friends, to the public, and to the "rest of mankind," that we have formed the determination and are getting the materials and making the necessary arrangements to present for your favorable consideration and patronage,

A First Class Family Newspaper.

J. E. BEVERLY will hereafter conduct the Editorial business of the JOURNAL, by a corps of able collaborators in different parts of the country and we take the liberty of assuring our fellow-citizens that no reasonable expense or labor will be spared to render the JOURNAL worthy of their support.

While we enlarge the paper a column to the page and print it on the best of paper with "bran new" type (which we have just received), we make no change in the price. It will still be afforded to subscribers at the old price of Two Dollars a year, or One Dollar for six months, in advance.

OUR COURSE.

We expect to try to meet the wants of our subscribers in every respect as fully as we can; and our enlarged space and augmented force will enable us to come much nearer that object than has been done heretofore.

AGRICULTURE, the great interest of our country, will receive our special attention. We are getting the materials and securing the assistance necessary to enable us to do justice to this important department.

The claims of a Pure Literature will not be disregarded, but we shall devote a large portion of our time and space to its cultivation. And we expect to be found at all times laboring to promote the improvement of our Common and High Schools, and all other means by which the masses are to gain improved facilities for Education and Intelligence.

THE MECHANIC ARTS, so essential to the welfare and happiness of any community, will receive a proper share of our regard.

On the TEMPERANCE QUESTION we will be found where we have always stood—in favor of Prohibition; but always recognizing the education and sound indoctrination of the masses as affording the only sure guarantee of the stability of any legal enactment in the direction of Reform. For this object we shall always be found laboring.

Finally, in Politics, we shall maintain the stand the JOURNAL has always taken. We shall support the Republican movement so long as it moves in the right direction. In these unsettled times no man knows with whom he will be acting in another year.—But let parties move as they may, the JOURNAL will continue—so long as it remains under our control—to be found arrayed on the side of the People—as opposed to the interests or designs of any Oligarchy North or South. It will continue the unflinching advocate of Free Soil, Free Speech, Free Labor, and Free Men—utterly repudiating the odious and nefarious doctrine lately promulgated by the leaders of a great but doomed party, that our Constitution makes Slavery the normal State or condition of a class of our own people if uninhibited by special State enactments—thus establishing Slavery as the rule and making Freedom the exception.

To give our paper still greater circulation we conclude still further to reduce our terms and offer our friends the following inducements to get up clubs:

We will send out 10 copies of the JOURNAL for 18 Dollars and a copy to get up of Club for one year.

We will send out 20 copies for 30 Dollars and a copy to get up of Club for one year.

The papers may go to one or to several Post Offices, and additions may afterwards be made at the same rates.

Subscriptions received for any length of time.

Respectfully, BEVERLY & SMITH.

DRUG & BOOK

Thos. Ward & Co.,

MANUFACTURERS OF ALL KINDS OF

SADDLERY & HARNESS

Washington St. one door West

of Ward & Digg's Store.

WINCHESTER, IND.

We take pleasure in announcing to the public that we are not only extensively engaged in the manufacture of

SADDLERY & HARNESS,

but that we are permanently located in Winchester, Ind., where we may be found ready and willing to wait upon those who may please to favor us with a call.

From our long experience in the business and our facilities in procuring stock, we are fully satisfied that we can give satisfaction to every reasonable customer who may wish to buy anything in our line, from the finest Saddle and Harness down to a common riding whip. We have Saddles in great variety, always put up in the latest and best styles, and gentlemen who wish anything in that line, will lose nothing, to say the least, by examining our stock of Saddles before purchasing elsewhere. And

LADIES.

We would say that you can always ride with ease and comfort upon our saddles. We take that especially into consideration in their construction. We will give you a saddle that will wear in actual service until you get the worth of your money, and your horse back need never be sore from the use of the Saddle. Our stock of

HARNESS

is always full and complete. Both Single and Double, Yankee and Hossier Harness, can be had at all times by calling on us.—You will find a greater variety in our establishment than elsewhere in town, and we guarantee that all of our work is made up in the very best possible manner by experienced workmen.

BRIDLES,

of every description, always on hand from the finest Bridle, down to the most common Blind Bridle, and all of them at prices that cannot fail to suit purchasers. We have

Trunks & Carpet Bags,

Horse Cards and Brushes, Curry Combs, Harness and Saddle Blankets, Harness and Trace-chains, Single and Double Breast-chains, and a great many articles too tedious to mention.

Buffalo Robes & Buffalo Over Shoes can be had at all times by calling upon us.

DONT FORGET

That we pay in CASH the very highest prices for all kinds of Hides and Sheep Pelts, and that we keep constantly on hand, both for wholesale and retail, both Sole and Upper Leather of the very best manufacture.

We respectfully request of our fellow citizens to give us a call before buying elsewhere and we will take great pleasure in showing you our stock, and we will do our best to make it your advantage to become our customers