

The Port Tobacco Times

AND CHARLES COUNTY ADVERTISER.

PUBLISHED AT PORT TOBACCO, CHARLES COUNTY, MARYLAND, EVERY FRIDAY MORNING, BY ELIJAH WELLS, EDITOR AND PROPRIETOR, AT TWO DOLLARS PER ANNUM IN ADVANCE.
Established in 1844. PORT TOBACCO, MARYLAND, JULY 2, 1875. Volume XXII.—No. 9.



NOW IF EVER.

THESE ARE LESS THAN WHOLESALE PRICES.

Come at Once or Repent the Delay.

OBSERVE THESE ASTONISHING REDUCTIONS.

A GOOD ALL-WOOL SUIT,

\$8.00—\$8.00—\$8.00—\$8.00—\$8.00—\$8.00.

REGULAR PRICE, \$13.00.

Two Thousand All- linen Coats for Only \$1.00 Each.

A GENTEEL CASSIMERE SUIT,

\$10—\$10—\$10—\$10—\$10.

FORMER PRICE, \$16.00.

A FINE CASSIMERE SUIT,

\$12—\$12—\$12—\$12—\$12—\$12—\$12.

REDUCED FROM \$18.

ELEGANT DRESS SUITS,

\$16, \$16, \$16, \$16, formerly sold for \$23.

All-Linen Coats, thirty-six inches long, \$1, \$1, \$1.

COME EARLY TO SECURE GOOD SELECTIONS.

HABLE BRO'S,

MERCHANT TAILORS AND FINE CLOTHIERS,
Corner 7th & D Streets, Washington, D. C.

HENRY C. HARTMAN,
Successor to Teal & Hartman,
No. 139 West Baltimore St., Baltimore,
LADIES' AND GENTLEMEN'S FURNISHING GOODS,
Under Dress, Hosiery, Gloves, &c.
SHIRTS MADE TO ORDER AND READY-MADE.
LADIES' MUSLIN UNDER DRESS,
White Trimmings, Working Cotton,
All styles of Corsets,
Silk, Alpaca and Worsted Braids,
Hooks & Eyes, Linen & Cotton Tapes,
AND ALL KINDS OF NOTIONS AT THE VERY LOWEST PRICES.

ROBERTSON & ROBERTS,
NEW STORE! NEW GOODS!
AT LA PLATA.
We take pleasure in informing our friends and the public generally that we have opened an entire NEW STOCK OF GOODS at LA PLATA, consisting of
Dry Goods, Groceries,
Ready-made Clothing,
Notions, Hats, Caps,
Boots and Shoes,
Queensware, Tinware,
Hardware, Confectionery,
Drugs and Medicines,
and all other articles usually found in a first-class country store, which we will sell at very REDUCED PRICES FOR CASH. No liquor sold.
We are also appointed agents for the sale of the Sea Island Guano, Ground Bone, prepared by R. L. Rasin, and Horner's Tobacco Sustain, Bone Meal, Ground Bone and Dissolved Bone, which can be had on easy terms.
La Plata, May 21, 1875—6m.

READ! READ! READ!
GREAT DISCOVERY!
New Jersey Enamel Paint Company,
MANUFACTURERS OF
LIQUID ENAMEL PAINT,
BRADLEY'S PATENT,
Made from Pure White Lead, Linseed Oil and Zinc, and Always Ready for Use.
Sold by the gallon. One gallon covers 20 square yards, two coats.
C. P. KNIGHT, SOLE AGENT,
93 West Lombard Street, Baltimore.
Be sure to send for Catalogue, which will be mailed free. (ap 23-2m)

New Store! New Goods!
THE undersigned having completed his storehouse and moved in with a COMPLETE NEW STOCK OF GOODS, he now proposes to sell goods at a very small profit.
Persons will do well to call and examine his stock before buying elsewhere, as he is determined NOT TO BE UNDERBID.
COME ONE—COME ALL!
And see the improvements at La Plata and to BUY GOODS AT BALTIMORE PRICES.
A full stock constantly on hand
THO'S R. FARRALL
La Plata, May 14, 1874.

BOONE & AHLSEGER,
WHOLESALE DEALERS IN
FISH, CHEESE AND BUTTER,
No. 47 Light St., near Lombard, and No. 18 Ellicott St., BALTIMORE, MD.
COUNTRY DEALERS WOULD DO WELL TO GIVE US A CALL.
AGENTS FOR
Vanderzee & Co's Excelsior Mince Meat, Apple, Peach and Quince Butters,
Jesse Oakley & Co's Celebrated Glycerine, Transparent and Laundry Soaps.
GEOURGE IRELAND JOHN A. CALDWELL

Spring and Summer Millinery
AT BALTIMORE PRICES.
Mrs. M. A. SCOTT, Port Tobacco, Md.
HAS just opened the largest and most complete stock of MILLINERY and FANCY GOODS ever offered in the county. She mentions in part: BONNETS and HATS of every shape that is worn; RIBBONS of every grade; VELVETS; French and American FLOWERS; RUSHES and SCARVES for the neck, in great variety. Also a large assortment of jet and gilt JEWELRY; and a nice lot of Handkerchiefs, Perfumery, Magnolia Balm, Hair Pomade, &c., and a small lot of the much desired Steel Buttons for dresses.
STAMPING and PINKING done at the shortest notice.
New Goods! New Goods!
JUST RECEIVED.
THE undersigned invites attention to his WELL-SELECTED STOCK OF SPRING AND SUMMER GOODS. These goods have been selected with care and with regard to the wants of his customers. The public generally is invited to call and examine them. His stock consists in part of varieties under the following heads:
Dry Goods, Groceries,
Ready-made Clothing,
Notions, Hats and Caps,
Boots and Shoes,
Queensware, Tinware, Hardware,
Drugs and Confectionery,
and all other articles usually kept in a first-class country store, all of which will be sold cheap for cash.
I am determined to do a strictly cash business.
JOSEPH I. LACEY,
Port Tobacco, May 14, 1875.

JOHNSON, WELCH & JARMAN,
SUCCESSORS TO J. B. WELCH & SON,
Wholesale Grocers and Commission Merchants,
NO. 60 SOUTH STREET,
BALTIMORE.
We will make it your interest to give us a call before purchasing elsewhere.
N. B.—Particular attention paid to the sale of GRAIN, COUNTRY PRODUCE, &c.
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Port Tobacco Times

PORT TOBACCO:

Friday Morning, July 2, 1875.

Accor. O., May 18th, 1875.

F. Wells, Esq., Dear Sir:—According to promise I send you an Essay by Edward Stranahan, Esq., on the "Renovation of Worn-out Lands."

I do not see that I can add anything to it, save a few words of suggestion upon rotation.

Upon the point when all the fields can be made to radiate from a centre, or let into a lane, or fields under three fences, or eight under one, may save labor and timber to the farmer. It often happens that a few crops may be grown under one fence (under the eight field system), as for instance, wheat and young clover or timothy, &c., may be together under one fence, and then the clover may be moved under the circle a movable fence would answer to keep stock in check.

Very truly yours,
OLIVER N. BRYAN.

(From the American Farmer of October 18th, 1874.)

PRIZE ESSAY

ON THE

RENOVATION OF WORN-OUT LANDS,

BY EDWARD STABLER.

Of Sandy Spring, Montgomery County, Md.

In submitting the following Essay upon the "Renovation of Worn-out Lands," it is deemed proper to state, that the writer understands the main object in view of the Editor of the American Farmer, to be, the eliciting of such information as is best adapted to the wants of the great majority of farmers; those who are dependent on the product of the soil for a support, and whose resources are comparatively limited: for although it may be equally desirable to those with more ample means, to improve their lands at the least expense of time and money, yet the number of such is comparatively small; and it is not perceived why the same plan may not suit both: the one who "lives by the sweat of his brow" improves his ten acres, while he with the same time, enrich his hundred acres. With the view, therefore, to adapt it to the more numerous class of readers, the effort will be made to condense the essay as much as possible; and so plain, and free from technicalities, that "the fat runs may read."

It is almost impossible to establish a theory, or mode of farming, that can be made to suit alike, all localities of soil, climate, and the facilities of obtaining the various kinds of manure, now in use in different sections of the country. But it is believed that a proper energy and industry on the part of farmers, and even with the present facilities of transportation, an increase of double, if not quadruple the lime, marl, and bones might be used to advantage; the two former, in many sections of our country are inexhaustible for generations to come; and a much greater amount of the latter might be obtained in sections where they are not used, but greatly needed, if more attention was paid to their collection and preservation.

The first step I would advise towards the "Renovation of Worn-out Lands," is a complete and thorough draining, not in the usual sense, but in the location and nature of the soil renders it too retentive of moisture late in the spring. It retards early seeding—the winter grains and grass roots are very liable to be thrown out and injured by frosts; and on such land, the injury from drought is much more severely felt. The writer has not known a case where this operation was performed with ordinary skill and judgment, that did not fully repay the expense; and in some cases the product was increased from five to ten fold.

To go into a full description of the methods used in different sections, to accomplish this most important branch of the husbandman's duty, would require diagrams and a map, which space nor is it considered necessary; for in the "American Farmer," (which every tiller of the soil ought to possess) very full and ample information may be obtained on the subject. A few general observations here, may suffice. If the soil is rendered too wet by springs, whose sources are lower than the surrounding land, the drains must be extended to at least the same level, be the distance and depth what they may; or to a sufficient depth below the surface, to admit of under-draining clear of the plough. This may sometimes be effected, by going through the clay sub-soil, and without much expense of ditching; as the water can then pass off through the under-stratum of gravel, or sand.

Wherever the under drains will answer the purpose, they should be adopted; for the land thus reclaimed is often the most profitable for cultivation; and where the expense of brick, or tile, is too great, or stable stone cannot be had to construct trunk drains, a good substitute is generally within reach, by 12 to 15 inches in depth of small loose stones; covering first with leaves, straw, or small brush, to prevent filling the interstices with the returned earth. Logs or poles, laid lengthwise, also form good under drains; but are more liable to clog from decay.

The next important step in my opinion, in "Renovating Worn-out Lands," is to plough deep, and thus expose a new surface to the action of frost, and atmospheric influence, in order to make a soil in place of the one provided by nature; but which either from cupidity, or bad management—perhaps both—man has destroyed. It is considered one of the most certain means to attain this desirable end; and although

sub-soil ploughing is fully approved, it is considered less important than to break up the earth from 7 to 10 inches, if the subsequent treatment is properly attended to.

The writer is well aware, that there is a long feeling of prejudice in the minds of many individuals, against this practice. What are the arguments of the advocates of shallow ploughing? They say in so many words, "our soil is only a few inches deep, and if we do not plough shallow, we shall turn up so much clay or gravel, as to raise a crop at all." If two or three inches of soil is buried in the spring, under the action of the plough, and thus

without further aid, or preparation for a crop that season, the result would generally be as stated. That shallow ploughing, enables the farmer to get clear much more readily of the little soil or gravel, that may have on his worn-out lands, is susceptible of easy demonstration; nor is it less so, that either in a very wet or very dry season, the crop from this cause, generally suffer.

During the summer months, the greater portion of the rains fall hastily; and whenever a heavy shower opens, and previous to sufficient depth to imbibe the whole, before the surplus water can penetrate, and be absorbed by the compact sub-soil, a large portion of the surface becomes fluid, and rapidly passes off, or "washes away," unless the land is perfectly level. What remains, after being so thoroughly saturated, has a tendency to imbibe more or less moisture, and thus, under a hot summer sun, and rendering it impervious to the roots of plants. If a drought succeeds, a soil in such state, can afford but a meagre supply of moisture to nourish a crop; and at a period too, when the greatest amount is needed. Nearly all the crops are more or less moisture, and the earth by their roots; and if this support is withheld, they cannot continue in a healthy and vigorous state; indeed so necessary is this element, that many of our grass seeds, and plants, will not only vegetate, but grow vigorously for a considerable period, with no other support to their roots, than what can be derived from pure water.

I am confident that in most of our lands that have become sterile, the cause is to be attributed, more to shallow ploughing, and washing away of the little soil they possessed, than to the extraction of the vegetable nutriment, by the growth of plants; in fact, it is almost a necessary consequence of this pernicious practice.

If the tilling farmer or plougher is able to purchase a dressing of mineral manure, or fortunate enough to scrape together a scanty supply of vegetable matter from the resources of the farm, a large portion of it is carried off by the first dashing rain, to enrich still more the beds of creeks and rivers.

Having stated some of the disadvantages which attend shallow ploughing, we will now briefly enumerate some of the advantages of deep ploughing, when judiciously pursued.

In the successful cultivation of all our crops, it is necessary that ample food be provided, and in an accessible form; and that moisture, equally necessary, be administered, in neither case great nor too small quantities. This will probably be admitted by all, and it is presumed the admission will also be made, that the greatest amount of nourishment derived by all our field crops is from the earth. By deep ploughing, it rarely occurs that a fall of rain is so great or sudden, as completely to saturate the body of the soil, and thus to render it so impervious to the roots, that little danger is to be apprehended of "washing away," and just as little, that the plants will so soon require a renewal of moisture, caused by evaporation. The soil much longer retains its loose and friable texture, and enables the roots readily to extend in all directions, to search for their appropriate nutriment; for the same reason, deep tillage admits of closer proximity of the plants, without sustaining equal injury from drought, and turning yellow; or being in common parlance.

I would ask the advocates of shallow ploughing, or the skinning system, as it has been aptly termed, if they have not observed the beneficial effects of earths taken out of cellars, and near tide water, both in this and neighboring States, now thrown out as waste lands, because they will no longer yield even a stunted growth of vegetation; most, if not all of which, might readily be reclaimed by the judicious use of marl; and at one-fourth the cost per acre, that lands in the interior, originally no better, if so good, are made to yield 10 to 12 barrels of corn, or 30 to 40 bushels of wheat to the acre. I have been informed by some of the large landed proprietors—not owning, nor residing within less than 8 to 10 miles of the marl beds—that a boat load of a thousand or twelve hundred bushels of marl, rich in carbonate of lime, could be delivered at many of their landings, at an expense not exceeding \$10.—Yet not one bushel was ever used!

But as was justly remarked, by one of these very intelligent and hospitable gentlemen, "it is no use to preach to a deaf congregation," and a further remark or two will only be added; not altogether without the hope that something will eventually "stir them up," and induce a trial at least of this valuable manure. It matters less how, when, or what quantity of Marl or Lime is applied; only MAKE THE APPLICATION, and that pretty liberally. Its application, like lime, is best made one, two or three years, and on the surface, before breaking up the land; and thus give it the benefit of

the winter's frosts and snows to dissolve and incorporate it with the soil.

Lime.—This, next to the proper draining (when necessary; for even lime will not enable us to dispense with it) and deep tillage, I consider the most certain and permanent agent in "renovating worn-out lands," of any other substance with which I am acquainted; whether mineral, animal, or vegetable; and when it can be obtained at a reasonable cost, even with some miles hauling in addition, it is generally to be preferred, to any one kind of "thought manure," it is to be used, if it may however be used, freely in conjunction with all other manures, and with the most judicious judgment.

After many years experience in the use of lime, I would advise in all cases where it can be economically applied, to spread on the surface from 1 to 3 or 4 years, before the land is broken up. The effect of a single winter's frosts and rains, will more effectually dissolve and bring it into action, and beneath the succeeding crop, as also the land itself, than is attained in a longer period, by ploughing it in as soon as applied.—

In this way also, a much larger quantity may be safely applied to the same land at a single dressing. As there is no loss to lime from atmospheric influence, it should be kept near the surface; and the proper quantity to use to the best advantage, can only be determined by the price, and the state the land may be in, at the time. With a good soil of grass roots to receive it, it will even 150 bushels to the acre, will do no harm; but on stiff clays, with little soil or mould on the surface, 50 bushels would be a very liberal application as a first dressing, if put on immediately after ploughing. It would be better to apply a less quantity at first, and renew it as soon as an increased growth of vegetation could be obtained.

When lime is applied in very large quantities, and immediately incorporated with poor soil, having little or no vegetable matter in it, the effect is to combine with the silicious particles,—abounding more or less in all clay soils,—and form hard compact masses, that are not separated by years of after tillage. This mode, therefore, to say the least, is like "burying the talent;" for so much capital lies dormant, and neither benefits the farmer or his land. Twenty-five or thirty bushels as a first application, particularly if aided by a light dressing of vegetable manure, will make a much quicker return to the outlay.

As to the modus operandi of lime much has been written; and various, if not conflicting theories, have been advanced; but no all agree as to the most judicious mode of application.

I consider it altogether unnecessary here, to attempt any explanation of the chemical changes produced in the soil by its use, or to give my own opinion on the subject, though formed after careful observation and from years experience. To the inexperienced, however, it is of much more importance to be informed how to use it to the best advantage. And as previously remarked, it is of still less consequence, how, or when applied, so THAT IT IS DONE.

Lime will act very beneficially, as I know from experience, on stiff tenacious clays, and on near a state of sterility, as scarcely to re-produce the seed sown on them. But if used under such circumstances, and without the aid of any kind of manure, considerable time must elapse before much amelioration of the soil need be expected.

Theory without practice, does not often carry much weight with it; and on the mind of the farmer, generally speaking, it acts with less force perhaps than with most other classes in the community; for unless an array of facts, or good evidence, is adduced to inspire confidence, he is slow to change; the more so, when he knows that even a partial failure in a single crop, from experimenting, will be sensibly felt in his slender income, and perhaps for a year to come. This feeling, it acts with less force perhaps than with most other classes in the community; for unless an array of facts, or good evidence, is adduced to inspire confidence, he is slow to change; the more so, when he knows that even a partial failure in a single crop, from experimenting, will be sensibly felt in his slender income, and perhaps for a year to come. 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