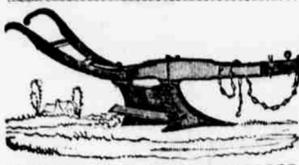


# Agricultural.



Ideas to Farmers.

The State Agricultural Chemist of Maryland, Mr. Higgins, has published a paper showing the necessity of droughts to replenish the soil with mineral substances, carried off to the sea by the rains, and also taken up by the crops, and not returned by manure. These two causes, always in operation, would, in time, render the earth a barren waste, in which no verdure would quicken, and no solitary plant take root, if there was not a natural counteraction by drought, which operates to supply this waste in the following manner: During dry weather, a continual evaporation of water takes place from the surface of the earth, which is not supplied by any from the clouds. The evaporation from the surface creates a vacuum, so far as water is concerned, which is at once filled by the water rising up from the subsoil of the land; the water from the subsoil is replaced from the next strata below, and in this manner the circulation of water in the earth is the reverse to that which takes place in wet weather. With this water also ascend the minerals held in solution, the phosphates and sulphates of lime, carbonate and silicate of potash and soda, which are deposited in the surface soil as the water evaporates, and thus restores the losses sustained as above stated. The author of this theory appears to have taken considerable pains to verify the fact by a number of interesting experiments. The subject is worthy the attention of men of leisure and of education, who pursue the rational system of blending chemistry with agricultural science.

[The above is from the Philadelphia Ledger, and contains evidence within itself of correctness. In connection with this, let us point out the benefits of keeping the soil well pulverized or cultivated, to prevent the mineral and other food of plants from being carried away with rains. England has a moist climate, subject to great rains, and is seldom visited with droughts, and yet more wheat is raised to the acre than anywhere in the world. Why is it? Simply on account of the universal practice of draining and keeping the soil in a highly pulverized state. When the soil is kept porous, it absorbs ammonia and carbonic acid gas from the atmosphere, and when rain falls these are carried down into the soft porous soil, and are taken up as food by the plants. If the soil were hard and caked, the rain would run violently off the surface, carrying away some portion of the soil, and with it the food so necessary to supply the plants with nourishment. The benefits to be derived from keeping the soil of cultivated fields well pulverized and open, cannot be too highly extolled.]

### To Collect the Perfumery of Flowers.

The ordinary mode of obtaining the perfume of flowers is by distillation; this plan has been adopted for many ages. Shakespeare tells us that—  
Flowers distill'd they with winter meet,  
Leese but their show, their substance still  
lives, sweet.

Or, in plain prose, that by distilling flowers we may possess their sweetness in winter, when their beauty has passed away.

The odor of flowers is owing to a minute portion of a volatile oil being constantly generated, and thrown off by the plant. This perfume is termed an essential oil by chemists. When the flowers are distilled with water, the essential oil rises with the steam, and is condensed with it in the still worm. The following plan of procuring the odors of plants is entirely upon a different principle to the above, and, being devoid of apparatus, will be found a delightful and economical amusement to a vast number of our readers who possess gardens. In all gardens there are flowers that—  
Waste their fragrance in the desert air,  
And there is no reason why it should not be collected by the following easy method. In the first place the flowers must be gathered, and that with as little stalk as possible, then place them in a jar three parts full of sweet olive or almond oil; after the flowers have been in the oil from twelve to twenty-four hours, the whole must be put in to a coarse cloth, and the oil forcibly squeezed from them, then fresh flowers must be added, and this process repeated for several days, according to the strength of the perfume desired. When the odor of only one flower is required, an incredible quantity of flowers are necessary to produce a scented oil, and for that purpose they would require special cultivation.

The amateur can only expect to produce a mixed perfume, *millefleur* (or "thousand flowers,") as the French call it. Thus he may use most flowers to hand having an odor,

It is better to choose for this purpose all the smaller kinds, such as sweet pea, mignonette, stock, clove pink, clematis blossom, &c. Lily of the valley, roses, and the larger blossoms, are not applicable for use by the novice, as they take up more room than is compensated for by the odor they impart. The sweet or fat oil being thus thoroughly perfumed with the essential or the volatile oil of the flowers, is to be mixed with an equal quantity of pure rectified spirit, and shaken every day for a fortnight; at that time it may be poured off quite bright, and will be found highly charged with the odoriferous principle previously in the sweet oil. The perfumed spirit thus obtained completes the process. It is as well to state, that those flowers which are just going off their bloom are as applicable as those in their prime. Thus the garden need not be robbed of its beauty.

"Of their sweet deaths are sweetest odor made."

### Steam Communication with America.

In and after May next, fifteen gigantic mail steam packets will leave Europe monthly for the American continent, viz: seven English packets, four United States, three Belgian and one Portuguese. Fourteen of these will start from or touch at England, the Portuguese packet being the single exception, eight of the fourteen steamers will start from Southampton, and the remaining six from Liverpool. These mail packets will cross the Atlantic by three different routes, which will terminate on the American side of the Brazils, Central America, and the United States, Rio de Janeiro will be the most Southern point touched at by them, and Halifax, in Nova Scotia, the most Northern point. In connection with these Atlantic packet lines, there will be nearly twenty tributary ones, some of them as long as the Atlantic lines themselves. By these the whole of the American Continent, down so far South as the river Platte on the Eastern side of the great Continent, and from Peru to California, in the Pacific; also the whole of the adjacent islands, including those of the West Indies, will be supplied with European correspondence.—*N. Y. Ship List.*

### Young, the Pirate.

Charles B. Young, whose practical doings in the Gulf of Lower California, have been chronicled of late, and who promises to become, in case his career is not checked, as terrible as Morgan ever was, was formerly a lieutenant in company "A," of Col. Stevenson's regiment of New York volunteers, in which capacity he came to California in 1847. He was stationed at La Paz, in Lower California, with his company during the war, and gained there a reputation for his bravery, while, at the same time, he was detested for his acts of thievery and meanness. Since then, he has been engaged in variety of things. He went from here two years ago, to Sonora, with letters of introduction and recommendation to Gov. Gandara, from Bishop Allemany, the Mexican Consul, and a number of other prominent persons, and there acted as a spy upon the Americans, causing the arrest and imprisonment of a number of them at Mazatlan.

He has been once imprisoned himself, at Mazatlan, for stealing and was once sent to the mines, and set at work with a ball and chain to his leg, as a convict. He managed however, to escape, and came to Upper California. He is one of the most plausible men living; and, although having a wife in Brooklyn, he was engaged to be married in 1849, to a daughter of Senor Pacheco, a wealthy ranchero, living at what is known as "Pecheco Pass," in whose confidence he ingratiated himself. By some means however, Pacheco was informed of the fact that he was a married man, and broke the match. Once before he had endeavored to marry a young girl in La Paz. During the time he was in the regiment he was guilty of a great number of larcenies, from the disgrace and punishment of which he escaped. He speaks Spanish like a native, is a fine looking, bold, dashing fellow, as brave as a lion, and without any conscience to trouble him for his evil deeds.—An interesting scrap is that he was once a member of the Society of Shakers, at New Leonon, New York, but was obliged to leave on account of being discovered in stealing some of the funds. It is said that after his last escape from La Paz, he shipped on board of a whaler at Magdalena Bay.—*Alta California.*

We love upright men. Pull them this way and that way and the other, and they only bend—they never break. Trip them down, and in a trice they are on their feet again. Bury them in the mud, and in an hour they would be out and bright. You cannot destroy them. They are the salt of the earth. Who but they start any noble project? They build our cities, whiten the ocean with their sails, and blacken the heavens with the smoke of their cars. Look at them, young men, and catch the spark of their energy.

### A Revolting Sentiment.

We think we have never heard or read a sentiment of a public man, upon a public occasion, that impressed us as much by its grossness, its bestiality, as that contained in the reply recently made by Mr. Banks, of Massachusetts, in the House of Representatives, to a question propounded by Mr. Barksdale of Mississippi. The question was—"Do you believe in the equality of the white and black races of the United States, and do you wish to promote that equality by legislation?" Mr. Banks said, "he had adopted the idea when there is a weaker race in existence, it must succumb and be absorbed in the stronger race. This he considered a universal law as regarded the races, and he proposed to wait until time should determine the superiority of the black or the white race, by one of them absorbing the other."

It is difficult to perceive how any man, not lost to all emotions of decency could utter such a reply, in the presence and hearing of hundreds of refined and intelligent women, who were gracing by their attendance, the galleries of the House of Representatives. Can it be possible that in this day of knowledge and science, a representative of a district of Massachusetts, who receives nearly one hundred ballots from nearly one hundred men, for Speaker of the House, does not know whether the white race is superior to the black, but must wait until one absorbs the other before deciding! And yet we ought not to wonder. Such sentiment is the direct result of the teaching of the black republican abolition-negro-philanthropists. Every man who joins them in their efforts to direct all the legislation of the country to the consideration of less than three millions of Africans in this nation of thirty millions of white men must come himself to entertain such revolting opinions. There is no escaping it.

This "amalgamation" doctrine, so boldly avowed by Mr. Banks, is one which concerns all—women as well as men. It concerns the mothers, the sisters—they who are the affectionate and effective teachers of the human race, they who would mould and fashion beings who are to live forever. It concerns all to know how absorbing the one by the other, is to go on. Are the negroes and the whites to intermarry, till the black is lost in the white, or the white in the black? Or does Mr. Banks contemplate other indulgences, which, by reason of their being between races of different color, are as disgusting as they are immoral.—*Concord Patriot.*

### Female in Male Attire.

In Baltimore, Wednesday night, a young lady, about nineteen years of age, was arrested by the watchmen in male attire. She was recognised by a gentleman from Albany, N. Y., as the daughter of a wealthy citizen of that city. She served as a nurse in Norfolk during the epidemic. The *American* says:

On Tuesday afternoon a person dressed in the garb of a man, arrived by the Philadelphia train and stopped at Sherwood's Hotel, at the corner of Fayette and Harrison streets, registering the name of Charles Walters.—The party had the features of a woman, but no suspicion was at the time excited. On Wednesday morning she came down stairs and called for breakfast, which she disposed of, and she sallied out into the city. While she was at breakfast, the proprietor engaged in conversation with her, and as soon as she left, expressed his suspicion that it was a female in male apparel. During the day the chambermaid moved the valise of the guest, when it opened and a pair of corsets, such as were worn by ladies, dropped on the floor. This fact increased the suspicion, but nothing was said about it until night, when the intelligence was conveyed to the house that a female in male garb had been arrested and conveyed to the middle district watchhouse. She stated that she was from Albany, where her parents now reside; that her name is Caroline Walters; and she was induced to leave home to search for a young man named William Auld, whom she learned had come to this city.

The young lady is pretty, of rather large size, and fascinating in her conversation. On Thursday morning another young person dressed in male attire, but evidently a woman, called at the Sherwood House and asked for 'Mr. Walters,' and upon being told that Miss W. had been arrested, made her escape. The first young lady will be sent back to her father at Albany.

Ruth E. Floyd, a pretty girl of eighteen, who loved "not wisely but too well," committed suicide last week at Dover, N. H.

INVENTION IN 1755.—The Patent office has been very active during the last year in granting patents. One thousand, nine hundred and forty-six were issued from the office during the year, the largest number any one year has ever yet shown.

### "Guide the Press."

It is customary, remarks and exchange, for ministers to pray for everything from the Jews of old down to the sinners of the present time, except the press. It is presumed that they think this speaks for itself or is past praying for, but when the fact is considered, that the press of this country exerts a wider and greater influence than the clergy, it is certainly worthy of being prayed for, if there is any virtue in prayer. A correspondent of the Boston Transcript, writing from Rye Beach, says:—

"I drove one Sunday morning, to one of the village meeting houses, about three miles distant. I was particularly struck with one portion of the good man's prayer, as singular as it was appropriate and expressive:—Do thou guide the press, and direct the influence which it exerts. I never heard such a petition put up before; I have rarely heard one which seemed to be more timely and significant."

### She is Dying.

The following is sublimely beautiful and pathetic, and could only have been dictated by a heart that has experienced all the bitterness that is therein expressed. It is not known by us who the author is, but suspect it is an extract from some book. If anybody can read it without moisture in the eyes and stones in the throat, they are worthy of marble.—*Men. Visitor.*  
"Hush! she is dying! The sun light streams through the plate glass windows; the room is fragrant with the sweet breath of Southern flowers; large milk-white African lilies; roses; jessamines and camelias with their large glossy leaves.

Through the open casement steals the faint, musical tinkle of playing fountains; and the light, tempered pleasantly by rose curtains of embroidered satin, kindles up gorgeous old paintings with a halo bright as a rainbow. It is as if fresher sunshine were falling on the bower of beauty.

The canary sings in his gilded cage; her canary; and the mocking bird raises his clear notes higher and brighter on the perfumed air.

How is it that you clench your hands until the nails draw the rich rosy blood through the thin quivering skin? How is it that you grind your teeth together, and hiss between that one word hush! It's a beautiful home I am sure, and that lady with her hand upon her bosom, is fair as any dream vision of the painter.

Surely nothing could be purer than that broad, high brow; nothing brighter than those golden curls.

And she loves you, too! Ah! yes, any one can read that in the violet eyes, raised so tenderly to your own. Ah! that is it: your young wife loves you.

She linked to yours the existence of an angel, when she knelt beside you at the marriage altar and placed her hand in yours.

For twelve long golden sunny months an angel has walked or sat by your side or slept in your bosom.

You know it! No mortal woman ever made your heart bow before a puny so divine!

No earthly embrace filled your soul with the glory beyond the stars; no earthly smile ever shone so unchangingly above all noisome things as you earth-worms call care and trouble. She is an angel, and having caught the seraph hymns of her sisters, she is about to wing her way to the glory land, and leave you to weep until the Good One calls you home.

A strange suicide was committed in the city of Leeds, England, recently, by a man in the prime of life, whose appearance betokened poverty and misery. He went into an inn, took a pipe, and after sitting moodily by the fire for ten minutes, put the end of a poker into the stove. After it became red hot, he took it out, and deliberately put the hot end down his throat.—The persons present caught hold of him and seized the poker, but not until he had burned his throat and mouth so badly as to cause his subsequent death.

Too TRUE.—Somebody East, we know not who, has immortalized himself in the following insight into human nature, which we indorse and liberally commend to all cross loving wives. He says:

Whether a man leads a sober life or not depends together upon the temper of his wife. No man will listen all night to a scold, who knows where "a good warm sling" can be had for a sixpence. At Cocktail's, the other night, we found no less than thirteen married men who spent six evenings a week squirting tobacco juice on a coal stove. We thought we could find out who they were. On inquiring, we learned that eleven of them were blessed with wives who "jaw," while the other two wedded a couple of "the philanthropist," ladies, so constantly engaged in the "welfare of Central Africa" that they have no time to keep their husbands shirts

**CURIOUS FACTS.—The Hartford Times** says the thick coating of ice upon the cherry, pear and peach trees has served to protect them from the frost, and at the same has acted in the capacity of a burning glass, by concentrating and intensifying the rays from the sun, until the unseasonable warmth thus imparted has had the effect of starting the flow of sap, and developing the buds. It is feared the damage is very serious.

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