

THE CALEDONIAN.

BY A. G. CHADWICK.

ST. JOHNSBURY, VT., NOVEMBER 7, 1837.

VOL. I. NO. 14.

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AGRICULTURAL.

ITALIAN SPRING WHEAT.

The Ganese Farmer contains an article on the subject of the culture of the Italian Spring Wheat. Several kinds of Spring Wheat are enumerated in this article; and that above mentioned is spoken of as apparently the most valuable of the varieties yet known among us. The extracts below are from a letter of Mr. Hathaway, of Rome, Oneida county, N. Y., to a friend, who wished to procure a quantity of wheat, addressed Mr. H. on the subject, requesting information as to the manner of its introduction, kind of soil most favorable, mode of culture, &c. and are followed by remarks by the editor of the Farmer.

"The Italian spring wheat which has been disseminated through my means is an excellent grain, and a very sure crop. It yields largely and has the wonderful property of doing well on poor worn out land, though of course the crop will be heavier on a more favorable soil; the fact well ascertained here that land so light and worn down, that it will not produce a crop of oats will bring a fair crop of spring wheat.

The original imported wheat weighed full 63 lbs. to the bushel; and now that the fifth crop has come in, it weighs 62 lbs. The flour is fine, and the yield good; the millers speak highly of its qualities; and the flour makes good, light sweet bread, rather more moist perhaps than that from winter wheat. The Italian is a bearded wheat, white chaff, bright yellow straw, the berry variable in color; generally of a reddish color.

The proper time for sowing is in April, if the ground can be well fitted; this season has been peculiar, and late sown wheat has succeeded best with us, and in some instances ripened soonest. It seldom is infected with smut, and it limed, never. From one and one fourth, to one and one half bushels of seed are sown to the acre, rich land requiring the most.

This wheat appears to be a cosmopolite, as it grows well and does well on almost every variety of soil, from stiff clay to a sandy plain. In this county we have very little good wheat land, I have not seen it growing on any that would be pronounced such by a western farmer. It usually ripens by the 14th of August, and yields from fifteen to thirty-five bushels per acre. The straw this year from its rapid growth is less firm than usual, and is taller; the consequence is that it has lodged more than in any former year.

I came in possession of the original wheat by accident. An Italian gentleman of Florence married against his father's will, was disinherited and emigrated to America, bringing, among a quantity of other seeds, a tierce of this wheat, intending to turn farmer. The wheat did not arrive seasonably for spring sowing in this place and was left in a store house on the canal. The gentleman contracted for a farm in the town of Florence in this county (induced by the name probably) was no farmer, made bad calculations and worse experiments, and failed in every thing; soon became reduced, and was about to eat his imported wheat for which I had advanced him money to pay the transit and charges. I happened to see it, and was struck with its excellence, told him it must not be disposed of, procured him other wheat, and took it at its cost in Italy, \$2.50 per bushel. I succeeded in getting it into hands of some of our farmers, though without much confidence on their part.—But the result was most gratifying—the wheat actually producing about double the quantity usually grown on an acre, and selling at more than double the price of common spring wheat. From this it has all arisen.

A small sample of the wheat which accompanied the letter, by its appearance fully justifies the account given to its quality; being of a plumper berry than is usual in spring wheat, thinner skinned, and the kernels being more easily reduced to flour. The demand for the wheat has been great, and prices high; but it has become extensively cultivated in that vicinity that it can be obtained for seed in any desirable quantity, and all probability at somewhat reduced prices. The remark of Mr. Hathaway that in its adaptation to soil, the Italian wheat might be considered cosmopolite or every where at home, would seem to be applicable to it in reference to climate as well as soils. It has been found to succeed admirably in Canada; where the culture of wheat promises to entirely supersede that of winter grain; and we have before us the Staunton, Va. Spectator of August 31, which states that the Hon. Mr. Breckenridge last winter procured five or six bushels from Mr. Hathaway, and last spring distributed it among the farmers of that neighborhood. The yield has been good, varying from twenty to twenty-five bushels per acre; thus establishing the fact that it may be successfully grown from the Canadas to Virginia. The editor remarks—"That he thinks it is not liable

to rust, as he had fields of fall wheat smartly stricken with rust both sides of his patch of spring wheat, while that was totally unharmed." We may here remark that in those sections of this state where the winter wheat has suffered the most from rust, the spring wheat has, except in a few partial instances, wholly escaped, the straw being unusually bright and fine.

MISCELLANEOUS.

A STORY OF THE PLAGUE.

BY LEIGH HUNT.

A young merchant of Marseilles was seized with symptoms of the plague, just as the day had been fixed which was to unite him with his mistress. Some difficulties had been thrown in the way of the union by a crabbed guardian; and many hours had not elapsed from their removal, and every thing been settled, (which the lover hastened to see done with the greatest impatience) when the terrible spots appeared which were to cut him off from communication with the unaffected. It is supposed that the obstacles in the first instance, and the hurry afterwards, threw his blood into a ferment, which exasperated the attack. He wished to make light of the matter, and to go about his ordinary concerns; but the strangeness of his sensations, and the thought of the peril that he might bring to his mistress, soon made him give up this pretension. He said that his horror at first inclined him to cry aloud, to tear his hair, and dash himself against the wall of the room; but the thoughts of her again controlled him, and he resolved to go through with every thing as patiently as might be, lest he should add to his chances of losing her. He sent her a message to that effect, bidding her be of good heart; and then in a passion of tears, which he resolved should be his last, but which, he said, seemed to give him a wonderful kind of humble support, betook himself to his prayers, and so to his bed.

He was soon left alone with none but an old nurse to attend him; but as he did not sleep, and the good woman observing him tranquil, slept a great deal, he thought next day he might as well rise and go into the garden for a little air. The garden, though in the city, was a very pretty one, and as it abutted on some grounds, belonging on one side to a church, and on the other to a field where they shot at butts, was removed both from sight and noise, and might be thought even solitary. He found himself alarmingly weak; and the air, instead of relieving, seemed to bring the weight of an oven with it; but there was grass and roses; and he thought it would add to the grace of his memory with her he loved, if he died in so sweet a spot, rather than in the house. Besides, he could not bear to think of dying in what he hoped would have been his bridal bed. These reflections made him again shed tears in spite of himself, and he lay down on a bench under a tree, wishing he could melt away in that tender despair. The young gentleman guessed that he had lain in this way a good hour, during which he had a sleep that a little refreshed him, when he heard himself called by his name. He thought it was the nurse, and looked towards the house, but saw nobody. The name was repeated twice, the last time with the addition of an epithet of tenderness, which he knew could come from no such person. His heart began to beat; and his ear guiding him truly to the voice, which he now recognized, he saw on the top of the wall nearly opposite to him, and under a tree which overhung it from the outside, his beloved mistress, holding with one hand on a bough, and with the other supporting herself in the posture of one who intended to come down. "Oh, Richard!" said she, "what a blessing to find you here, and nobody to hinder me! I have cheated them, and slunk away—my love! my life!"

Our lover said these last little words had a wonderful effect on him. With all her tenderness, his betrothed bride had never yet indulged it so far as to utter such "conjugal" words (that was his phrase). He said they seemed to give her a right to join him; and they filled him with such love and gratitude, that the very languor of his illness became confounded with a bewitching pleasure. He confessed, that the dread of her being infected, though it still recurred to him, was much fainter than before. However he the more thought it was his duty to urge it, and he did so. But the lady had no such dread. She had come on purpose to brave it. In vain he spoke as loudly as he could, and rose up and began to drag his steps towards her; in vain he made signs to her not to descend. "Dearest Richard," said she "if you cannot help me down, it is but an easy jump, and do think any thing will induce me to go back? I am come to nurse you, and make you happy." "You will die," said the lover in a faint voice, now arrived within hearing, and still making signs of refusal. "Oh no; Heaven will bless us," cried she: "I will not go back, mark me; I will not indeed; I cannot, much less now I have seen you, and in that sick gown. But I see you cannot help me down. You are unable. Therefore I come." With these words she made the jump, and the next minute was supporting him in her arms. She put her arms round him, and took his repelling hand into hers, and raising herself, kissed him on the mouth, saying, "now I belong to you. Let me seat you on the bench, and get you some drink. I am your wife now, and your dear servant, and your nurse." Their eyes were filled with tears, and the lover could only lift his head towards heaven, as much as to say, that "they should at all events live there." Not being able to reach the bench, he sat down in a thicket of roses. The young lady went to get him some drink, and returned with the news that she had waked the astonished nurse, and sent her to tell her guardian where she was. Nobody expected him to venture to come and fetch her, and he did not. He told the gentleman who had these particulars from him, that this behavior of his betrothed bride, put him in a state so new and transporting, that he conceived an alteration of his blood must have taken place very speedily after her return from the house; for though he could hardly bear his delight, he began manifestly to get better within an hour afterwards. The lady never received the infection. Their friends said she would, and that two would die instead of one. The physician prophesied otherwise. Neither the lover nor his mistress, however, would

quit their retreat, till all doubt of the possibility of infecting others was more than done away. In the course of six weeks they were man and wife; and my acquaintance told me, not as many days ago, that they were still living, and a pattern of love and esteem.

[Correspondence of the Boston Mercantile Journal.]

WASHINGTON, Sept. 30, 1837.

MR. SLEEPER:—I am so thoroughly disgusted with the heartlessness of politics, that I can hardly compose my nerves to write about it (in any strain but one which my sober state disapproves). So entirely and thoroughly are all those refined and religious, personal and social qualities, which you and I call "virtues," set at defiance by politicians, particularly the dominant party, (and I confess I have found it too much so with all dominant parties) that I am not only disgusted with the subject, disinclined to its contact, but almost ready to despair of our public liberties. To see how completely successful hypocrisy and charlatanism, parasitism and profligacy are here, whenever brought into competition with unsophisticated truth, simple Republicanism, and unpretending moral worth—is enough to sadden the stoutest heart of a true Democrat. To see all those personal vices which have so long rendered—no—*which once rendered* the monarchical and aristocratic Courts of Europe the "haze and reproach" of all true Republicans—or at least, which seemed to me so hateful and hateful, when I went to school, and read of "the sneaking crowd of flatterers false, who are in their turn abused,"—to see the men who have most of these qualities, the only men who can at this boasted era, and at this proud capital, successfully compete for any distinguished public employment, is indeed chilling and appalling! There are a few, (Heaven be praised,) a few such men as John Q. Adams, Daniel Webster, Richard Fletcher, John Davis, and some others of great talents, distinction and attainments—who are to be seen and heard yet in our Congress; but how little influence have such men compared with the class to which I have referred! How totally and entirely are they thrown into the shade in social life here—by the coxcombical card-playing, wine-bibbing tribes.

And if you pass out of the political into the religious world, here too, not the meek, and humble, but simple, and modest, and quiet, unassuming practical Christian, is the influential church-member; but your dogmatical, dictatorial, consequential, controversial, declaiming sectarian or propagandist—he is the man whose "zeal for the Lord" is illustrated in fashionable imitation of the pomp and pageantry of an aristocratic Court. Had I dropped here from another world—with my opinions, feelings and habits formed to the best models of Christian and Republican sentiment and character, that a life of industrious investigation has enabled me to obtain sight of—and were I to look around in these circles and hotels, boarding houses, public offices and Halls of Congress, for information as to the nation I had got among, the religion they professed, and the government they had adopted, I should have little suspicion that this was the capital of a people professing to be the disciples of Jesus—and affecting the simplicity of REPUBLICANISM. I should think it probable that their theological and moral code had been derived in part from Mahometan and pagan sources—tinged somewhat with the influence of an Ignatius Loyola, but pretty well run down into French Atheism. At least such would be my first impression, till I had become acquainted with some of the "common people," visited their families, and conversed with their pious women and out-of-office citizens.

Our New England people, did they know of the corruptions and abuses, by which their public money is squandered upon panders to power—men who refuse to pay their debts—debauchees, gamblers, and their kindred tribes, they would do something more than petition Congress for the abolition of Slavery in the District of Columbia. They would form societies for the moral and political reformation of their Government and its public officers; and for the restoration of the old-time virtues of republicanism. Depend on it my friend—the imitation of European Court etiquette, style of living, manners, fashions, and debauchery—introduced into Washington, and increasing every year—is more thoroughly undermining our free, social, and political system, than could have been directly effected by all the talents and power of a Voltaire, a Metternich, or an Imperial Nicholas. Nothing is wanting but the union of the youth and genius of a Napoleon, the tact and cunning of a Talleyrand, to the courage and disposition of a Jackson, to overthrow this government, in fact, if not in form; and to establish in this Metropolis, as perfect an Aristocracy or Monarchy, as ever existed in Europe or Asia. The members of Congress are paid in GOLD—public officers can command the richest speculations in public lands—women of certain accomplishments can obtain favors for their favorites—while the laborer, working-man and mechanic, is turned off with shipplasters and other rags for his industry, and an insolent reprimand "for asking his dues."

And when an office-seeking visitant wants to acknowledge the favors of the public, or to illustrate his own distinction in the world, he goes to a keeper of hacks and horses—hires him to make out a list of such persons as his lordship ought to visit—furnishes him with a requisite number of cards, (pieces of pasteboard, honest citizen, with his matchless name neatly inscribed thereon,) and this stable-keeper sends his hackmen around to the doors of these listed ones—and leaves with their servants each, one of these cards! This is visiting "respectably" in Washington City, the capital of your AMERICAN REPUBLIC!

From such a fountain, verily how pure the streamlets. What a capital place this for the schooling of young Democrats! You may breed them of any color—from milk to molasses, you may train them to the pistol, the dirk, the billiard table, the lottery office, the cock-pit, or the racetrack; for all of these and many more Republican and Christian accomplishments abound in the metropolis of your Liberty. Yes, sons of the pilgrims, your FEDERAL CAPITAL will soon outvie Paris, and its Palais Royale, in "easy virtues," if not in "eates" and eating houses. Go on, people of America—select for your public servants, (as you sometimes still call them, but for the keepers of your purses, as you will sooner or later find them,) select the gay, the gallant, the impudent, the accommodating—who will illustrate in private life, the doctrines of your Court—and

like ancient Israel you shall not many years longer be "without a KING to reign over you"—to deliver you among the nations from the reproach of Puritanism, Democracy and Republicanism!

ARATUS.

INFLUENCE OF THE MIND ON DIGESTION.

The state of the mind exerts a powerful influence not only on the stomach, but on the whole process of nutrition, and greatly modifies the quantity which may be safely eaten. If the mind be gay and joyous, appetite will be comparatively keen, digestion effective, and nutrition complete. Examples of this kind abound in childhood, and among an easy-minded, well-fed peasantry.—Whereas, if the mind be harassed by care and anxiety, or devoured by grief, envy, jealousy, or other troubles and disquieting passions, the healthy calls of appetite will be scarcely known, and digestion and nutrition will be equally impaired. The fact is exemplified on a large scale in every commercial country, and especially in times of public distress and political change. Shakspeare obviously had the principle in view when he made Caesar exclaim—

"Let me have men about me that are fat,
Sleek headed men, and such as sleep o' nights,
Yond' Cassius has a lean and hungry look;
He thinks too much; such men are dangerous."

ANTONY.

Fear him not, Caesar, he's not dangerous:
He is a noble Roman, and well given.

CAESAR.

Would he were fatter; but I fear him not:
Yet if my name were liable to fear,
I do not know the man I should avoid
So soon as that spare Cassius. He reads much.
He is a great observer, and he looks
Quite thro' the deeds of men; he loves no plays,
As thou dost, Antony; he hears no music;
Seldom he smiles, and smiles in such a sort
As if he mock'd himself, and scorned his spirit
That could be moved to smile at anything.
Such men as he be never at heart's ease
While they behold a greater than themselves;
And, therefore, are they very dangerous."

Even experience must have taught every one with what zest we sit down to enjoy the pleasures of the table, and how largely we incline to eat, when the mind is free, unburdened and joyous, compared with the little attention we bestow on our meals when we are overwhelmed with anxiety, or have the whole energies of the mind consecrated on some important scheme. There cannot be a doubt, indeed, that the over-exertion and excitement, or absolute inertness of the mind, in which sedentary people are generally immersed, contributes greatly, along with the want of muscular exercise in the open air, to impair the tone of the digestive organs. In this way, as it is not less justly than forcibly remarked by Dr. Caldwell, dyspepsy commences perhaps as often in the brain as in the stomach. Possibly oftener. That this true of the disense in Europe will scarcely be denied, after a fair examination of the facts connected with it. It is there almost exclusively a complaint of the studious and the scheming, who, over-tasking their brains, injure them by toil.

In denouncing active exertion of mind or body immediately after eating, as inimical to digestion, it is not meant that we should go to sleep, or indulge in absolute listlessness. A weak constitution may require something like a complete repose; but a person in ordinary health may indulge in a leisurely saunter, or pleasant conversation, not only without injury, but with positive benefit; and, perhaps there is no situation in which digestion goes on so favorably, as during the cheerful play of sentiment in the after-dinner small-talk of a well assorted circle. The nervous stimulus sent to the stomach, is then of the most healthful and invigorating description; and even the dyspeptic, if on his guard against a heavy meal, forgets his woes amid the unwonted vigor of his functions.—Combe's Physiology.

ANNEXATION OF TEXAS TO THE U. STATES.

The following from the speech of Mr. Lamar, Vice President of Texas, at the dinner given him at Mobile, expresses the feelings of Texas on the subject of its being annexed to the United States.

"I said the whole people of Texas were for the annexation. There was however, one dissenting voice—and that was the humble voice which was then speaking. Rather than have his noble, free, generous, beloved Texas joined to this Union with the turbulent and incendiary fanatics, the infuriated abolitionists, with Mr Adams at their head, he would pray that she might by some sudden convulsion of nature, by some mighty earthquake, be cast out upon the ocean alone island. And rather than be joined himself in such a union with such fanatical enemies of the liberty, freedom and rights of the South, he would prefer to be chained like Prometheus to a rock to be devoured by vultures, or like Mæzappa, bound to a wild horse, to be dashed down precipices until life should become extinct. Get rid of these fanatics, gentlemen, and Texas is yours, with all my heart."

ANCIENT DRUNKENRIES. The existence and extent of drunkenness a hundred years ago were the subjects of discussion in both Houses of Parliament; Lord Carteret said he had seen the people lying insensible in the gutters, as he passed to the House, and Lord Cholmondeley mentioned the same circumstance; the Bishop of Salisbury said, that boards were put up inscribed with, 'you may here get drunk for one penny, dead drunk for two pence, and have clean straw for nothing!' And the proprietors of houses accordingly pro-

vided cellars and places strewed with straw, to which they conveyed those wretches who were overwhelmed with intoxication; in these dismal caverns they lay until they had recovered some use of their faculties, and then they had recourse to the same mischievous potion. The price of gin at that time was sixpence per quart.—London as it is.

Mr. Hoffman of New York, in the course of his speech in reply to Pickens on the sub-treasury bill, proposed that this bill should no longer be called the "Divorce Bill;" but that it should be designated by its truly descriptive appellation, the "Matrimonial Alliance Bill." "I will call it," said Mr. H., "the bill of a marriage fatal to the purity & integrity of our government; fatal to the Constitution under which we live; fatal to the liberties, the happiness and the prosperity of the people."

Vermont Legislature.

SENATE.

Saturday, Oct. 28.

Resolutions—By Mr. Kinsman, instructing and requesting our Senators and Representatives in Congress to procure the sitting of the District Courts at Montpelier, instead of Windsor and Rutland—laid on the table; from the House empowering Bank commissioners to examine, under oath officers of the Banks of this state, as to their condition—referred to the committee on banks; rescinding the resolution appointing a day of thanksgiving, and another resolution designating the 3d Thursday of November as the day—concurred in and passed.

Bills—For the education of minors and apprentices—taken up, and after debate, committed for amendment; relating to sheriff's fees—read twice and referred to judiciary committee; from the House, repealing an act for the destruction of foxes—read twice and referred to committee on agriculture.

SENATE.

Monday, Oct. 30.

Bills—to regulate and govern the militia of this State—taken up, when Mr. Pierpont moved that the Committee of the whole be discharged from further consideration of the bill for the present, and that it be committed to the committee on military affairs for amendments, which he designated—bill committed, and Messrs Pierpont and Converse, on motion of Mr Phelps of Windsor, added to the committee; in addition to an act relating to courts of Probate—relating to sheriff's fees—postponed indefinitely.

Resolution—from the House, relating to the duties of Bank inspectors, reported by Mr. Porter, with proposed amendments, empowering the inspectors to ascertain and report to the legislature the rule by which the several banks ascertain their profits, on which 10 per cent is paid to the state. On the proposed amendment Mr Waterman demanded the yeas and nays, and the amendment was adopted—yeas 18, nays 9. Mr Phelps of Windsor moved the following amendment:

And, as the late President of the United States, by unwise and unauthorized measures, and in defiance of the expressed will of Congress, has deranged the currency, and thereby involved the country in distress and ruin; and as the present President of the United States pledged himself to follow in the footsteps of his predecessor, has in his late message declared that it is not within the constitutional province of the general government to regulate the exchanges or relieve the embarrassments of the country; and as the banks in this state, by reason of the derangement of the currency, have been compelled, for the time being, to suspend specie payments; that said bank committee and commissioner be directed to report to the next session of the legislature some plan by which the people of this state can be again furnished with such safe and stable currency as will enable the holder of any bank bills to convert said bills into specie at pleasure.

Mr Egerton demanded the yeas and nays, which were as follows:

Yeas—Messrs Allen, Bell, Briggs, Burton, Converse, Eaton, Hammond, Howe, Lawrence, Miller, Pierpont, Phelps of Windham, Phelps of Windsor, Porter, Ranney, Steele, Swift, Van Sicken, White and Young—20.

Nays—Messrs Cobb, Egerton, Heywood, Ingalls, Jenness, Kinsman, Palmer, Sillie and Waterman—9.

So the amendment was adopted. Mr Cobb moved so to amend the resolution as to require of the Banks the gross amount loaned to stock holders, other than officers of the banks. Opposed by Mr Egerton, in remarks, supported by Messrs Van Sicken and Phelps of Windham, and adopted. Mr Cobb moved further to amend the resolution by requiring the number and amount of all sums loaned to individuals over five thousand dollars—supported by Mr Phelps of Windsor, and adopted.

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES.

Reports—By the committee on Banks, for reference of the following bills to the next session, and they were referred, viz. to incorporate Washington Co. bank—bank of Castleton—bank of Bradford—Bennington Co. bank—against the bill relating to banks; referred to the next session.

Mr Kittredge, from the committee on Temperance memorials, made a report accompanied by the senate bill—500 copies ordered to be printed.

By the Judiciary committee in favor of extending the right of trial by jury, and the petitioners had leave to bring in a bill.

Mr Hopkins, by unanimous consent, introduced a resolution instructing our delegation in Congress to use their exertions to procure the passage of a pension act embracing all revolutionary soldiers now excluded by the acts in force—adopted.

A bill relating to trial by jury, was ordered to a third reading. (This bill gives "fugitives from service," i. e. slaves, who escape to this state, the right of trial by jury.)

Reports—By committee on education, on memorial for aid to Middlebury College, a bill to loan \$2000 to Middlebury College for five years without interest; laid on the table.

By select committee on grand list, bill taxing steam-boat stock, &c. and the bill was discussed at length. The bill embraces foreign bank stock, steamboat stock (except ferries), toll bridges, manufacturing and turpentine stock. A motion to exempt foreign bank stock was made and rejected, and the bill passed.