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DORRIS &amp; CO., Editors and Publishers.

## AGRICULTURAL.

## Thin Sowing.

Last week we endeavored to impress upon our readers the importance of conducting experiments in farm operations. We speak of its importance in a general sense, particularizing no particular direction. We have been more impressed with the importance of such suggestions by reading, since that time, a letter upon "thin sowing" from that celebrated English farmer, J. J. Meek, of Tiptree farm.

He writes that in the midst of a wheat field sown in his usual method of four pecks per acre, he has one acre dibbled in at the rate of one peck per acre. The thickest sown is spoken of "as green as a grass field," while the half acre looks at a distance like a bare fallow, and did not know from past experience that such would not be the case, he should condemn it as a failure. This past experience tells him that these seeds at intervals of six inches, by 4 inches, will send out numerous shoots to radiate horizontally and afterward with a strengthenning curve turning upward and bearing at their extremities large heads of plump, well-developed kernels. There will be more straw (tested by weight) he adds, and it will be free from mildew, it will stand erect till cut with the scythe. In 1864, planted in the same manner, his yield was 58 bushels and 24 tons of fine quality of straw per acre. In 1865, the yield, 58 bushels per acre, (straw not weighed) and in both years the yield exceeded the thickly sown portion of the field by two bushels per acre together with a mere abundant yield of straw.

In summing up the Alderman says: "I don't believe that farmers know how much they often lose by thin sowing. They would do so if they tested, as I have done for years, comparative qualities on a small scale. Every man should judge for himself, according to his soil, climate, and other circumstances of condition, &c. The frothy straw and light kernels of a thick-sown and early-laid, grown crop are a losing affair. If even we hear of an extraordinary yield, it is usually from a crop so thin in the spring its owner thought of plowing it up, but after well harrowing, &c., it branched amazingly, and became the best crop on the farm. It is clear that there is some gross error in sowing when our average increase is only nine-bushels for one. Mine is at least 40 to 50 for one."

Now of course it is not to be expected that our farmers who pat in their hundreds of acres of small grains can possibly expand the time, and labor to dibble in their crops, but will it not be well for them to see if they are not annually wasting a large quantity of seed by sowing too thickly? There are many advocates of thin sowing in this country already, but we doubt if the majority of farmers have determined how far they may with profit reduce the amount of seed or whether thick sowing is not really best for the prairies. If there be such, it is not for them that these hints are thrown out. It has been some time since we have seen anything from our farmers upon this subject. Let such as have already carefully experimented in this direction give others the results of such experiments. We hope as a general thing believed in tolerable thick sowing. — *Prairie Farmer.*

## Ashes as a Manure.

Unloashed ashes—applied to land—often do harm instead of good—not that they are useless as a fertilizer, but for the reason that too much of a good thing is used. Those who have had experience in clearing new land will probably have seen proofs of this. From carelessness or want of information on the subject, farmers sometimes leave the ash on where leg-harps have been burned, undisturbed at sowing time, and the consequence is that at the succeeding harvest they find the crop in such places to consist of nothing but a heavy growth of straw—the heads having no wheat in them. There was too much of a good thing. The ashes should have been spread over the other portions of the ground in the vicinity of the heap, thus imparting a general average of strength and uniformity in the field at harvest time. We have known lands long down to grass and become nearly worthless, except in the way of producing horses and the like, rendered vigorous and productive by the aid of a thorough harrowing and a liberal top-dressing of leached ashes. In this state a much more liberal supply should be used, than when unloashed. — *Rural New Yorker.*

**FARMING MANURE.**—A very successful English gardener lays a good deal of stress upon what he calls "fining," manuring, and attributes much of his success to this process. By fining, he means breaking up the lumps and tearing in pieces the long strawy parts, and bringing all into such a fine state that it can be thoroughly mixed with the particles of the soil. Having broken it up he mixes it with ashes, tan bark, and lime, laying it up in thin layers. When it has become partly decomposed, he overhands it, turning it over with a shovel, and mucking it out homogeneous mass. After the heap has lain a few months, it gets another working and then being roughly "lined" it is ready for use anywhere. Farmers may learn an example. It is plain that coarse, lumpy manure cannot benefit land as much as that which is broken up and equally diffused through it. Liquid manure and guano not efficiently—for this, among other reasons, that they are minutely divided among particles of soil.—*Canadian Farmer.*

Somebody says that in a Southern State there is one brewer who has charge of four churches, edits a newspaper, is president of a law college, runs several paper wagons, keeps a farm, and owns several patent rights which he farms out.

## South Jersey Republican.

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## COMMUNICATIONS.

## Home Letters.

## NUMBER VII.

Dear A.—The other evening at the Presbyterian festival, (which by the way was a success socially as well as pecuniarily,) I heard two gentlemen discussing the military qualifications of Gen. Lee. Both of them gave it as their opinion that they had been exceedingly magnified and over-praised, and one of them remarked, that "the only talent which Gen. Lee possessed is any degree, this is the same talent which I have been cultivating so assiduously for your benefit and that of the other readers of the Republican until it has attained such magnificence, that it threatens to overturn and cast into the shade all my other graces. Besides there is danger that these flashes of silence" may acquire for me a reputation for wisdom to which I can lay no just claim, and as I abhor the idea of "sailing under false colors" I have thought it best to break the spell, although I am in about the same condition of the verdant orator, who said that "he did not rise to get up or speak to say anything."

Some of our "County Neighbors" about whom Mr. Stowe writes so graphically, have been making themselves oddly familiar of late. A port young robin, with an inquiring mind and large perceptive faculties made the discovery about a week since, that our currants were beginning to ripen, and straightway issued tickets for a magnificent soiree, which has been well attended not only by the robin family, but also by the blue jays and wrens who have feasted to their hearts content. Not that I have the least objection to dividing the fruit with the little songsters, but I do protest against their selecting the ripest, neatest bunches, and often culling one or two of the berries, throwing the rest down into the dirt to be destroyed, and I hope now that I have spoken about it, they will see the matter in its true light, and desist from such wasteful improvidence.

Nearly opposite to us is a little grove filled with a dense mass of underbrush which might well be called Conyopoli for the name of its fury inhabitants is legion, and our garden being in close proximity, they persist in making the most unceremonious calls at all hours in the day and night without any regard to our convenience or pleasure. Like some of our politicians they seem to be independent of what you say, continued my friend. You wish to hear that in you would like—that is shall play for you?"

There was something so odd in the whole affair and something so eccentric and pleasant in the manner of the speaker, that the girl seemed broken in a moment, and almost involuntarily. We might well have been justified in making refined and more strenuous efforts for a better plan, could we have had the cooperation of the Executive. With his cordial assistance, the Rebel States might have been made model Republics, and this Nation an empire of universal freedom. But he preferred "restoration" to "reconstruction." He chose that the slave States should remain as nearly as possible in their ancient condition, with such small modifications as he and his nine ministers should suggest, without any impertinent interference from Congress. He anticipated the legitimate action of the national Legislature, and by rank usurpation ejected governments in the conquered provinces, imposed upon them institutions in the most arbitrary and unconstitutional manner, and now maintains them as legitimate governments, and insolently demands that they shall be represented in Congress on equal terms with loyal and regular States. To repress this tyranny and at the same time to do justice to conquered Rebels requires caution. The great danger is that the seceders may soon overwhelm the loyal men in Congress. The haste urged upon us by some loyal but impetuous men to re-instate their dexterity in the use of the broad manacles of charity, and especially the danger arising from the unscrupulous use of patronage and from the oily verbiage of false pretenses, famous for sixty-day obligations and for protested political promises, admonish us to make further delay. A few words will suffice to explain the changes made by the Senate in the proposition which we sent them.

The brother and the sister were silent with surprise. The former had aside his candle—“Cut me your pardon,” he stammered; “but I had not perceived before, Then you play from ear?”

“Entirely.”

“And where do you hear the music, since you frequent no concerts?”

“I used to hear a lady—practicing—nurse us when we lived at Brühl two years ago. During the summer evenings her windows were generally open, and I walked to and fro outside to listen to her.”

“And have you never heard any music?”

“None, except street music.”

She seemed so, yet Beethoven said no more, but seated himself quietly at the instrument and began to play. He had no sooner struck the first chord than I knew what would follow—how grand he would be that night. And I was not mistaken. Never during all the years I knew him did I hear him play as then played to that blind girl and her brother. He was inspired, and from the instant that his fingers began to wander along the keys, the very tones of the instrument began to grow sweeter and more equal.

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# HAMMONTON!

Rare Opportunity to Secure  
A HOME

To All Wanting Farms.

In the great Hammonton Fruit Settlement, the best inducements are offered to all wanting farms in the most delightful and healthy climate, with a good productive soil, being among the best in the garden State of New Jersey; only thirty miles from Philadelphia on the Camden and Atlantic Railroad, and but few miles to the New York Railroad, and but few miles to the New York Railroad. These lands are sold to the actual settlers at low prices and easy terms; in five, ten, twenty acres and upwards to suit. The title perfect; warranty deeds, clear of all incumbrance, given when all the purchase money is paid.

## The Soil

is a fine sandy and clay loam, suitable for all grains and grasses, and is pronounced the finest quality for gardening and fruit raising. It is a marine deposit, with a marly substance mixed all through it in a very commuted form, and in the exact condition to support plants with proper farming, it is very productive and profitable, worked, ad warms and early. The lay of the land is slightly undulating, and is called level; it is free from stones or rocks.

It is the best fruit soil in the Union. Pears, Peaches, Apples, Quinces, Cherries, Blackberries, Raspberries, Grapes of all kinds, and all other fruits are raised here in immense quantities, and they are sought after by the dealers and command the best prices in the markets.

Hammonton is already celebrated for its fine fruits and wine.

From two hundred to five hundred dollars is cleared, from expense, per acre, in the fine fruit culture. Sweet Potatoes, Melons, and all the finer Vegetables delight in this soil; this branch of farming pays much better than grain raising, and is much easier work.

## The Market

is unsurpassed; direct communication twice a day to Philadelphia, New York, and Atlantic City. The Railroad Company cars here to be filled with fruit every day in the season; they are filled in the afternoon, and the same night or next morning by daylight are in the market, where the highest cash prices are obtained, without any other trouble to the producer than delivering the produce to the car. None of the land now offered is over one and a half miles from the railroad.

## The Climate

is mild and delightful the winters being short and open, out-door work can be carried on nearly all winter, whilst the summer is no warmer than in the north. Persons wanting a change for health will be satisfied here—the mildness of the climate is soon beneficially felt by delicate persons and those suffering from Dyspepsia, Pulmonary affections, or General Debility, as hundreds here will testify. This section has long been known for its health, and during the summer months tens of thousands flock for health. No Miasma, Chills and Fevers in this section.

## The Water

is pure and soft, of the best quality. It abounds in streams and is found by digging from ten to thirty feet. Wells are cheaply made here, as there is no rock to go through. We have the best stores in the country, where goods are sold as cheap as they are in Philadelphia or New York. Good schools with competent teachers—Clergymen of all denominations reside here, some of them in charge of congregations, others cultivating the fruits; also a number of retired physicians. The Methodists, Presbyterians, Baptists, Universalists, Spiritualists have their services regularly—Mills convenient.

Reliable practical nurserymen who furnish all kinds of trees, plants, and vines at the lowest prices.

The population of the settlement is large and rapidly increasing; it is composed of the best classes from New England, the Middle, and Western States—intelligent, industrious and moral. The buildings are neat and handsome, and some of them fine. All materials for building, improving, &c., at hand; also reliable mechanics who will give satisfaction. Every convenience to be had that can be found at any other place. Persons owning property here obtain tickets of the Railroad company to and from the city at a discount of twenty-five percent on the regular fare.

The lands have been examined by some of the best agriculturists and fruit growers in the country, who pronounce them the best in the U. S. for fruit growing. Mr. Solon Robinson, the agricultural editor of the New York Tribune; Dr. L. P. Trumbull, the State Entomologist; Mr. John G. Bergen, member of the American Institute of New York; and others, reported that they never saw a finer growth of fruit, grain, and grass, than they saw here, and recommend this settlement to persons desiring to till the soil, for pleasure or profit.

These lands are being rapidly sold, and from the rapid and extensive improvements property will certainly increase in value.—Inquire for R. J. Brant, the founder of the settlement, who will show the lands free of expense. For further information inquire or address:

R. J. BYRNES,  
Hammonton, N. J.

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