

AGRICULTURAL.



Setting Fence Posts.

The setting of fence posts top downwards has been recommended by many who have tried the experiment. A New York farmer in a communication to one of the Agricultural papers in that State, says:

About thirty years ago, I, to test the thing, split two bar posts, side by side, out of a chestnut log. They were eight feet long, eight inches wide, and three thick. One I set butt down, the other top down. At the end of ten years, the one set in butt down was rotted off, and I re-set it in the same hole. At the end of six years it was rotted off again, and I put in a new one. The other lasted four years longer, when it got split in two; and I took it out and it was about two-thirds rotted off. Sixteen years ago, I set six pair of bar posts all split out of the butt, out of the same white oak log. One pair I set butts down, another pair, one butt down the other top down. Four years ago, those set butt down were rotted off, had to be replaced by new ones. This summer I had occasion to re-set those that were set top down, I found them all sound enough to be re-set. My experiments have convinced me that the best way is to set them tops down.

It has also been asserted by many that fence posts cut in the summer, will last much longer than those cut in the winter season. A writer in the *New England Farmer*, says:

About the first of June, 1840, I made two pairs of hemlock bar posts. The sticks of which they were made were about ten or twelve inches in diameter, at the largest end, sided down to four or five inches, to the top of the ground, being round below, cut at the time, and, of course, the bark stripped off. One pair was set in quite moist ground, and is now standing, though I think nearly used up; the other pair was set in dry, loamy ground, and broke off in the fall, from a high wind, the fifteenth year after they were both set. The same sticks cut in the winter would not have lasted half so long.

Training Steers.

It is a well known fact that kindness will subdue even the most ferocious of animals; by a little kindness they will get over their feeling of fear, and become perfectly gentle and obedient. In order to meet with success in training steers, they should be treated kindly, and let them know that they are not to be hurt, and one-half the work of breaking them is done. Give them occasionally a few ears of corn, or some oats, etc.; then bring the yoke into the yard and let them see it, and smell it, before it is placed upon their necks, as this will teach them that there is nothing to fear from it. After placing the yoke upon their necks, be very gentle with them; take hold of the bow, and turn them about the yard. This plan should be performed for a short time, when they can be taken out and hitched to a small log, and after learning them to haul a log, then they can be put before a sled, and very soon they will be under good discipline.—[Southern Homestead.]

Crops after Turnips.—A correspondent of the *New-England Farmer*, relates his experience with corn, oats and grass, after turnips and after potatoes. He says:—"I applied three times the quantity of manure for the turnip crop that I did for the potatoes alongside, and treated both alike the following season, for corn, and did not get as much from the turnip piece as from the potato by ten bushels per acre, and the oats that followed the corn were very much less; in fact, when laid down to grass, a stranger would have noted the difference in favor of the piece planted with potatoes. The soil seemed packed, and plowed much harder where the turnips grew."

Fat and Paying Sheep.—H. T. Brooks, Esq., gives in a recent *Rural New-Yorker* an account of two ewes kept and fed about fourteen months by John Johnston. Mr. J. paid \$5.60 for them in November, 1859, when they weighed 160 pounds. He kept them until Feb. 1, 1860, when they were sold. They had grain worth \$3.38, hay 80 cents, pasture \$1.50; hay, grain and pasture for their lambs until Feb. 1, \$1.50, making the cost of the ewes and lambs \$12.78. The ewes, then weighing 260 pounds, sold for \$13.65, their wool for \$3.28, and their lambs would bring \$9, leaving over \$15 profit on two sheep, kept 14 months and 7 days.

Yield of Berries per Acre.—A writer in the *Ohio Cultivator* says that two thousand quarts per acre is not an uncommon yield for the first crop of the American Black Cap Raspberry, and that an average yield of three thousand quarts per acre can be obtained by a careful selection of plants and good culture. This, however, does not equal the strawberry crop of a farmer in North Eastern Ohio, whose average product last season from about thirty varieties was at the rate of 2,240 quarts per acre, whilst Monroe Scarlet, Moyamensing Blue, and Wilson's Albany, gave 5,000 quarts per acre.

HOW CHINA WARE IS MADE.

China is so common a material that we are apt to overlook its beauty and value. Some people make collections of pieces of old china, as others do of old pictures. Horace Walpole and the people of our great-grandfathers' time did so; and now when the news of the "looting" or plundering of the Emperor of China's palace at Peking, has lately arrived, curiosity-hunters are anxiously expecting the arrival of specimens of the famous "egg-shell china" of which not a single particle has been allowed to leave the Imperial capital for the last two hundred years.

"Why are our cups and saucers called China?" Because the first specimens of the manufacture came from that country. It is also called "porcelain" because the word *porcellana* in Portuguese means a little cup, and the first traders in the article came from Portugal. The first china-ware brought to England was in a Portuguese ship taken as a prize in 1593.

In manufacturing it the workmen takes a certain stone called feldspar, breaks it up, washes it, and preserves the finest portion, which sinking to the bottom of the water, forms a hard, white mass that can be reduced to a fine powder. This is mixed with water till it is like thick cream. Then pieces of flint, which are very hard, are burnt in a great kiln fire, thrown red hot into cold water, and afterward ground fine. Next, the flint and the clay mixtures are brought together, when they form a sort of mortar or dough.

This dough is now trampled on by men, with naked feet, to squeeze out the air bubbles. It is afterward placed in a damp cellar to ferment, and thus get rid of any animal or vegetable matter it may contain. The longer it is kept the better the clay is. The Chinese keep over fifteen or twenty years, and a parent will often provide a sufficient stock for his son's life.

Most pieces of machinery become improved and altered in course of time; but the potters' wheel is much the same now in 1861 as it is known to have been nineteen hundred years before Christ. This potters' wheel is a small circular board, made to revolve very rapidly, and on this the clay is measured, and its intended shape given to it by the pressure of the fingers and palms of the potters' hands. In the catacombs of Thebes in Egypt, which are proved to have existed more than three thousand seven hundred years, there have been discovered paintings representing various processes of the potters' art, and among them a delineation of a potters' wheel, exactly like those now in use. When the clay vessel is moulded it is partially dried, smoothed on a turning-lathe, and fitted with spouts, handles, etc.—those irregularly sloped pieces being cast in molds; then they are all baked in a great fierce oven.

But when they leave the oven they look dull, and some ladies buy them in this state (called "biscuit ware," because they resemble ship's biscuit) and paint their own designs or patterns on them. The painting is done with peculiar metallic colors which are afterward burnt in.

The exquisite group of flowers often found on china ware is painted by an artist who makes it his sole business to decorate china.

The gold round the edges is laid on in the metallic leaf, then burned in, and burnished by rubbing it with a very smooth tool.

After painting the vessels, they are glazed by being dipped in a mixture of lead and ground flints, which looks like cream. When taken out of this mixture the paintings are quite covered by it, it is so thick, but on being fired in an oven the heat converts the pasty looking covering into a thin coating of glass.

Although the Chinese made the first China, their manufactures are neither as elegant nor useful as those of America and England. But they are more curious. They ornament their porcelain in very queer style; and the division of labor being great among them, and carried even into their designs, different workmen, without any concert or plan, paint successive parts of the same group or picture which contributes to the grotesque effect of their work. They are also ignorant of perspective; so that you see the strangest effects in what they call landscapes. They make besides common china several others—a black kind much esteemed in the East; a kind which appears as though it were cracked all over; one in which the colors show only when the vessel is filled with liquid; and still another variety, in which various figures appear raised on pure white porcelain, and yet the surface is smooth. They have even built a tower in Nankin which is nearly three hundred feet high, and entirely covered with porcelain tiles, which look as fresh as when they were first put on four hundred years ago.

The first attempt to make porcelain in Europe was by the Moors in Spain—then a ware called "majolica" was made at Majorca, from whence the manufacture was removed to Italy. About the middle of the sixteenth century, Bernard Palissy, a Protestant, after many trials, produced a beautiful enamel-glazed vase. Palissy's life, which you should all read, is very interesting, and shows what patience and perseverance will accomplish. In the seventeenth century, in England, there was only a common earthen-ware, but two German brothers of the name of Ellers discovered a superior clay, and after this a gentleman named Asbury, who was engaged in the manufacture, having occasion to employ some calcined flints as a poultice to his horse's eyes, noticed their fine, white, opaque substance, and added them to the paste of which he made his china, thus supplying the last

needed improvement for the perfection of the art. Mr. Josiah Wedgwood, who was born a poor potter's son, was the next and greatest improver.

In the eighteenth century, a German named Bottiches, while hunting for the philosopher's stone, made Dresden china by accident! The clay which he used for his crucibles was discovered in a singular manner. John Schnorr, an iron-master, riding out, discovered that his horse's feet were sticking in a soft white earth, which he used as a substitute for hair powder. Bottiches used it as such, and observing its earthy nature, tested it, and found it exactly what he wanted to perfect his porcelain. The Elector then caused the earth to be taken secretly to the factory in sealed barrels. Every workman was sworn to secrecy; and "Dumb till death!" was inscribed in large letters in all the work-shops. The next famous works were those of Sevres.

Experience.

BY DANIEL BONELLI.

It is customary while searching for the practicable to refer to experience as the infallible arbiter between disputed points. The human mind is prone to take a thing that has the sanction of the experienced for granted and established, so much so that much original ingenuity is allowed to lie dormant or its suggestions are made to succumb to the precepts of experience. But instead of blindly bowing to the authority of every experience it would be better to inquire first into the same and ascertain its value, since this must necessarily be estimated in proportion to the quantities, the intelligence, observation, manners and practices of those whose possession or property the experiences are.

Some Germans were conversing once about swimming across the Danube, and one of them engaged to perform the feat but was told by another that it was thoroughly impracticable. "You will go down," he said with the utmost assurance, "I have tried it, I have experienced it, one sinks every time, goes to the bottom like a whetstone." It needs no argument to prove that this experience is not sufficiently valuable to be accepted as a standard; yet many experiences, deserving no better regard, are often considered a license "to give advice to the inexperienced."

A man may engage in a branch of business and, through want of skill, penetration or perseverance, utterly fail and then say—"the thing is no good, I have experienced it, it will not pay, it is not worth pursuing." But let another one, who is capacitated for the business, undertake it and his experience will differ from that of the former, as he will probably succeed and pronounce the business a good one.

A person, who is a stranger to manners and decency, may pay a visit to a family and perhaps give so much offence that he does not only invite coolness of reception but a request to withdraw his unwelcome attendance, and he may state that the family are of a very cool and uninviting disposition, and even rude to visitors, for he has "experienced" it, while another person, going to the same place, may, by exercising good manners and amiable deportment, gain quite a different treatment, form a different opinion and deliver it as the result of his experience, quite at variance with that of the former.

Again: there is a mean, sordid, detestable, vile, lecherous villain, who pesters the society of our "mountain home" with his odious presence; he reports the inhabitants of these valleys to be a queer, suspicious, unsocial, uncivilized people, and alleges his "experience" in support of the assertion. But here is another person whose life is regulated by the principles of unflinching virtue, which he feels in duty bound to revere and adore, whose association is appreciated because it is honorable, whose purposes are one with those of the noblest among the people, and his testimony will differ materially from that of the former, in fact, be entirely the reverse, though quite as strictly based upon experience.

Instances might be multiplied to infinity to prove that the worth of experience depends upon the ability, intelligence and quality of the possessor. Hence the lesson that we should walk by the light of noble principles and let them be the source of every action; learn to make our observations from a correct point of view; employ in our enterprises skill and courage commensurate with the work to be performed or, if we have not sufficient of those qualities to attain success, turn to a task for which we are capacitated so that our experiences may not only be pleasant but valuable to ourselves and those who may choose to solicit our suggestions or be determined by our experience to form their conclusions.

PARSON BROWNLOW ON HIS NEIGHBORS.—These States are swarming with desperadoes and assassins, who would be altogether happy in bathing their hands in the blood of the Union men. A more ferocious and malevolent barbarism cannot be found on God's green earth than that now dominant in this Southern Confederacy. Private worth, public virtues, age and experience, none of these can soften or restrain the multiplying and relentless brutality which is engendered by the mob spirit of this "new form of civilization." Talk about riding a Union editor upon a rail? Why, the Prince of Peace, if he were on earth again, could not traverse the dominions of these Yanceys, Rebets, Davises, Slidells, and live without repudiating his sermon on the Mount, and proclaiming this Southern Confederacy to be God-ordained, Christ-begotten and heaven-approved.

ABSTRACT

Of Meteorological observations for the month of May, 1861, at G. S. L. City, Utah, by W. W. Phelps.

MONTHLY MEAN.		BAROMETER.
7 a.m.	2 p.m.	9 p.m.
25—	25—	25—
Monthly mean		Thermometer open air.
7 a.m.	2 p.m.	9 p.m.
52	64	55
Monthly mean		Thermometer dry bulb.
7 a.m.	2 p.m.	9 p.m.
60	62	61
Monthly mean		Thermometer wet bulb.
7 a.m.	2 p.m.	9 p.m.
53	64	60

Highest and lowest range of Barometer during the month.

Max. 25—
Min. 25—

Highest and lowest range of thermometer in the open air during the month.

Max. 76°
Min. 28° zero.

Barometer not in repair.

The amount of rain water which fell during the month, was 1.105, which is more than one inch. Although the weather was steady and cool, the prospect for the farmer is fair, and, in faith, we may safely hope for "peace and plenty" in Micah's top of the mountains.

MONTHLY JOURNAL.

1. Clear and pleasant.
2. Clear and summer-like.
3. A. M. hazy; p. m. cloudy and like for rain.
4. A. M. rainy; p. m. cloudy.
5. A. M. cloudy; p. m. partially clear and cool.
6. Cloudy and cool; evening clear.
7. Clear and spring-like.
8. Partially clear.
9. A. M. cloudy; p. m. clear. New moon 3h. 41m. p. m.
10. A. M. do do
11. Partially clear and cool.
12. Frost; clear.
13. Do do
14. Clear and warm.
15. Clear, hot and windy.
16. Cloudy; shower at noon; p. m. cloudy.
17. Rained at 3 a. m.; cloudy; p. m. partially clear.
18. Cloudy and windy.
19. Do do
20. Do do
21. Clear and very windy, south.
22. Partially clear and cool.
23. Clear. Full moon 10h. 40m. a. m.
24. Clear. South wind.
25. Shower a. m.; p. m. partially clear.
26. Clear and pleasant.
27. Do do
28. Flying clouds with high wind.
29. Clear.
30. Clear and windy.
31. Clear and cool.

Malpractice.

G. S. L. CITY, June 4, 1861.

ED. DESERET NEWS:

DEAR SIR—A prominent case of surgical malpractice having of late come under my observation and, in order to prevent the uninformed and unwary, being imposed upon by pretending practitioners, I give the particulars: The son of a friend of mine having accidentally fallen from a horse, and, as was supposed, dislocated his shoulder, he was taken to Dr. (spare the title) Hughes, who pretended to set matters right; the child was taken home and, in nine days, things not appearing satisfactory to the father, he was again taken to the same professor, who pronounced it doing admirably well; but in order to be satisfied beyond doubt, the father solicited the opinion of Dr. W. F. Anderson, who, upon examination, pronounced the arm broken a little below the shoulder, and of course the little fellow had to undergo the painful suffering of setting a broken arm so long after the accident.

Now, while all will admit that a community should be grateful for the timely aid of a skillful surgeon or practical physician, whose valuable services frequently save life; yet, for the health, limbs or life of the unsuspecting to be placed in jeopardy by thoughtlessly trusting themselves in the hands of an ignorant or inexperienced practitioner, is deplorable.

C. N. S.

GOLD.—A cubic inch of gold is worth one hundred and forty six dollars; a cubic foot, two hundred and fifty-two thousand, two hundred and eighty-eight dollars; and a cubic yard, six million, eight hundred and eleven thousand, seven hundred and seventy-six dollars. The quantity of gold now in existence is estimated to be three thousand millions of dollars, which, welded in one mass, could be contained in a cube of twenty-three feet.

—In England, in 1858, it was enacted that "no lady or knight's wife should have more than one velvet or damask gown for the summer; that all ladies should wear russet or camel three days in the week, under the penalty of ten shillings per day; and that a surveyor should examine the ladies' wardrobes."

—Mr. Hassaurek, the new Teutonic Minister to Ecuador, is a funny man. It is said that he "thanked the President for having appointed him to the highest place in his gift"—that is, 15,000 feet above the ocean, the altitude of Quito, the capital.