

## Agricultural.

## IMPORTANT REMEDY PROPOSED FOR INFECTIOUS DISEASES.

The following communication to the American Agriculturist is from Dr. Stephen Bredin of Butler Co., Pa.

The perusal of a late article on Pulmonary Murrain in your excellent paper has induced me to call attention through your columns to the experiments of Professor Polli in the use of the sulphites of soda, potash, &c., in these cases of blood poisoning from purulent infection or contagious disease. The experiments of this learned Italian professor were undoubtedly carefully conducted and extremely satisfactory, their results so marked and conclusive, that scientific men do not hesitate to affirm that these experiments, in the benefit they are destined to confer, may be only second to that of the great Jenner in the discovery of the vaccine disease and its power over that loathsome pestilence, small-pox. A remedy so powerful as to prevent the death of an animal after having had as violent a poison as that taken from the nostrils of a glandered horse, introduced into the circulation of the blood, and afterward bring about its recovery by neutralizing the same and enabling Nature to throw it out, is worthy of trial in pleuro-pneumonia or lung-murrain. The powerful antiseptic property of these sulphites is conclusively shown in these experiments, a detailed account of which may be found in Braithwaite's Retrospect, at their preventive power is warding off the infection of lung murrain might prove very great. The magnitude of the calamity which the introduction of this terrible disease into our country at the present day may inflict, is so great, that any means to retard or prevent its silent force may be of incalculable benefit to us as a nation. The use of these salts may remedy faults, or violations of hygienic in our treatment of the dumb beasts, which we do not understand and which are yet to be overcome by science. The sulphite of lime is sold to prevent fermentation of cider, and the sulphite of soda—(Sulphite of Soda, not the salt used by photographers; hypo-sulphite is used. The medicinal effects of the two may be similar, however; but as it is often called improperly "Sulphite of soda," this fact must be borne in mind to avoid disappointment.)—is a cheap salt used by every photographer. They are within the reach of every man. The lime salt is tasteless and inodorous, and could be given in the food, or if mixed with a common salt, the cattle would lick it up, that of soda could be given with sugar, or in any way convenient: a tablespoonful of either twice a day might be sufficient to prevent infection after exposure, or to render the disease milder and less fatal after its commencement. During the progress of the disease, an ounce or more would have to be used frequently during the day, to secure the antidote upon the blood. These quantities are not too great, perhaps are hardly sufficient to exhibit the full antiseptic power of the salt—of this, experience should be the guide. I am therefore anxious to call attention through your valuable extended columns to the use of these simple and innocuous salts in all the diseases where the blood is poisoned by any infectious matters.

**INCREASING SOIL.**—By deepening the cultivation of your soil you add to its fertility. Thus, by having your soil tilled to the depth of four inches, where before you had only four inches, you double its capacity—somewhat as though you had two mounds now where you had only one before. Did you ever think of this? Eight inches of cultivated soil has double the length of four. This is a new way of increasing your land—not new to our robbing farmers, who understand all this—hence they cultivate deep—not deep once, but gradually each year a little deeper, or at every plowing. Plowing in this way makes the soil mellow, has a wondrous effect, even without manure; but manure, it must be remembered, is the only reliance always.

A deepening your soil judgment is required. Not too much of the raw subsoil must be brought up at a time, unless it is rich—then plow deep. In clay soil, a little at a time is the true theory. For half an inch of clay, more or less, at each plowing. This thrown up by the action of the elements, will be reduced to powder, and it at once goes to work drawing strength from the atmosphere—clear profit, you see; it has the effect of plaster. Then it has a manure of itself. These heavy clay beds are generally spread out with your soil,

you need only to adjust your clevispin to manure your ground. But this must only be done when the super-soil is thoroughly friable, in good cultivated order. Too much clay brought up will stiffen your soil; and air, and heat, and rain are kept out; and thus it remains stiff, cold, stubborn soil, on which little or nothing can be grown. Grass is the only thing that stands the least chance.—[Valley Farmer.]

**TOP-DRESSING GRASS-LAND.**—Many New England farmers top-dress grass land, and find it very profitable. We noticed as early as August that some farmers had begun to cart out manure for this purpose. It should be spread down soon after the heaps are dropped, and if the manure is lumpy, it should be pushed over immediately after spreading, in order to break the lumps in pieces. Then it should be picked over if the compost, as is sometimes the case, contains small stones, such as are in the way of both hand-scythe and mowing-machine.

Farmers not unfrequently suffer the manure heaps to remain too long before spreading them. Some even wait until Spring before doing it. This is bad economy, ordinarily speaking. It is said by some farmers, that if a side hill, liable to be washed, be top-dressed, it is better to let the manure remain till late in the Spring before it is spread. If this be an exception, which some even doubt, it is no argument against fall spreading on level meadows. When heaps of manure are suffered to remain unspread over winter it will be observed in mowing, that the grass is much heavier where the heaps remained, thus proving that much of the value of the manure was washed out during the Fall and Winter. Let manure for top-dressing, then, be early spread.—[Massachusetts Ploughman.]

**THE BEST TIME TO SOW GRASS-SEED.**—I have an impression that experimental knowledge is the most valuable for the farmer. For more than half a century I have been experimenting to find the best way to sow grass seed. For more than half a century I have been experimenting to find the best time to sow grass seed. For more than thirty of the first years of my farming I did as my neighbors did; we supposed that the spring months were the only proper ones for that purpose. But later in life, by reading agricultural papers, I discovered that some enterprising farmers were successful in sowing their grass seed in August or September. I tried the experiment with complete success; that being the season it would naturally fall, it appeared evident to my mind that it was the right one. But still later I have not been particular, and have sowed grass seed at any season when my ground was prepared to receive it, and if the seed was good it has uniformly vegetated and done well.

Last fall we (my son and myself) after harvesting our potatoes from the low, wet soil, which would not admit of seeding down in early spring, sowed herdsgrass and red-top seed on the 14th and 15th of October upon said potato field, doubting, but still hoping for the best; and now, the 8th of July, it bids fair to give us the best crop of hay produced on any of my farm lots. This grass probably will require two weeks longer to grow than that which has been seeded down longer. I think I never saw seed vegetate better at any season. Grass seed will vegetate a long time after being sowed.

In the spring of 1862, I seeded down a lot of good ground, but rather dry, with red-top seed; the months of June and July were uncommonly dry, and at the middle of August there was no appearance of a grass sprout on the piece. On the 10th of August, the same year, it began to rain profusely, and continued raining for several weeks till the ground was saturated. In September, more than four months after the seed was sown, every seed seemed to vegetate, and the ground appeared like a beautiful lawn. And on the whole, I have concluded that any time when our land is in a good state of preparation to receive the seed is the best time to sow it.—[SILAS BROWN, in Boston Cultivator.]

**SAXON CHEESE.**—The following method makes a wholesome and palatable cheese much used in Saxony:

Boil potatoes, remove the skin and mash them fine. Add a little salt. To five pounds of potatoes, add one pound of sour milk, and mix thoroughly; cover and let it stand undisturbed four or five days, according to the season. Knead it into balls, and put in a cool, airy place to dry. They may be covered with a piece of old lace, or thin muslin, to keep from insects, and admit the air.

**ASHES FOR ASPARAGUS.**—John Millen, of Highland county, Ohio, covers his beds with 3 or 4 inches of leached ashes, and finds the crop better than with any other manure—weeds are completely suppressed.

## ABSTRACT

Of Meteorological Observations for the month of Mar. 1865, at G.S.L. City, Utah, by W. W. Phelps.

## MONTHLY MEAN:

Barometer out of repair.		
Monthly Mean.	Thermometer open air.	
7 a. m.	2 p. m.	9 p. m.
25°	38°	28°
Monthly Mean.	Thermometer Dry Bulb.	
7 a. m.	2 p. m.	9 p. m.
40°	47°	43°

The highest and lowest ranges of the Thermometer, during the month, in the open air, were

Max. 60° Min. 5°

The amount of snow that fell during the month, measured 18½ inches. The snow and rain water measured 2.280, which is two and a fourth inches of water and 30 over. The prospect for agriculture is fair, if the farmer attends to his business in season.

## MONTHLY JOURNAL.

1. Cloudy; snowed.
2. A. m. snowing; p. m. clear and cold.
3. Clear and hazy; night cloudy.
4. Cloudy and moderate.
5. Mostly cloudy and thawing.
6. Cloudy and warm.
7. Cloudy and warm; snowed all night.
8. Clear and cold.
9. A. m. clear; noon hazy; p. m. snowing.
10. Cloudy and moderate.
11. Cloudy and warm.
12. do do
13. Cloudy and snowy.
14. Cloudy and sloppy.
15. A. m. clear; p. m. cloudy.
16. do do
17. Cloudy, hazy and warm.
18. Clear and hazy.
19. Cloudy and stormy.
20. Cloudy.
21. Clear.
22. do
23. A. m. clear; p. m. hazy and warm.
24. Cloudy; windy; storm at night.
25. Snowed all day.
26. Partially clear.
27. Cloudy and cold.
28. Clear and cool.
29. Clear.
30. do
31. Mostly hazy and warm.

## Varieties.

—Lord Macaulay well writes that the young should often hear: "You have your own way to make, and it depends upon your own exertions whether you succeed or not."

—A severe earthquake shock was experienced in this city this morning, at thirty-five minutes past seven o'clock, the motion being from east to west. The frequent occurrence of these shocks is beginning to attract attention, and should warn builders to give heed to the security of the structures they are erecting.—[S. F. flag, March 31.]

—The *Patersonian* says that upon a single 700 acre tract in Passaic County, New Jersey, paint, oil, coal and plumbago have been discovered in large quantities.

—An interesting discovery has just been made in a tumulus at Ekaterinoslaw in Russia. It consists of a treasure which formerly belonged to a chief of the Huns. Among the different articles is a heavy gold diadem, in which is set a cameo or amethyst of ancient Roman workmanship, also a large collar, bracelets, and drinking cups, with handles formed by animals, the whole of which are in gold of remarkable workmanship.

—The annual rate of mortality in Boston is one to every 41 of the population; London; one to 45; Philadelphia, one to 50; New York, one to 35.

—As much nitrate of soda as can be held between the thumb and finger, it is said, if thrown in a vase of water, will preserve flowers for the space of a fortnight.

—Dr. Leonard Swain of Providence, R. I., reports his success in preaching a single sermon on Sunday, leaving the afternoon for Sunday School—Conference meeting in the evening. He thinks it works well for the good of his people.

[From the New York Ledger.]

## CHARITY AT HOME AND ABROAD.

BY MARY GRACE HALPINE.

"Aunt Malinda please give me a pin," said a bright looking, but shabbily dressed little fellow opening the door of Mrs. Lane's kitchen.

"Just see here," he added, pointing to a large rent on the knee of his trousers, "me and Will. Brown were playing 'tag' and I fell down and tore this." "Why don't you run home and get your mother to mend it, Johnny?" said Mrs. Lane as she did her best to bring together the severed parts.

"O, 'cause mother ain't to home. She's gone to the 'Society for Clothing Destitute Children!'"

"Destitute children!" ejaculated Mrs. Lane as she surveyed her nephew from head to foot. "If you don't come under that class, then never child did! Why you are all rags and tatters!"

"I know it aunt," responded the boy moodily; "but it ain't my fault. Mother says she haint no time to mend my clothes and if she did, they'd be as bad the next day, so what's the use? Father said last night 'that I looked like a little heathen, and he almost wished I was, for mother would then think I was worth looking after a little.'"

"Have you had any supper, Johnny?" "No," said the boy, casting a longing look at the generous piece of pumpkin pie that his aunt was cutting; "mother left some cold victuals on the table for father and me, but—"

"Well," interrupted the good woman, placing the pie upon a plate, and adding a couple of doughnuts she was frying, and a slice of cheese, "you just take this, and mind that you don't leave a bit of it."

Johnny lost no time in obeying his aunt's peremptory, but by no means unpleasant injunction, and the contents of the plate rapidly disappeared before his energetic assault.

"I wish mother stayed to home, just as you do, aunt," he said, as he opened the door, casting a lingering look back upon the cheerful, cozy-looking kitchen.

"I declare!" exclaimed Mrs. Lane, as taking up the rolling pin, she resumed her labors, "if it isn't a shame for Nancy to neglect that boy so! He's so ragged and dirty that I am actually ashamed of him, and his mother an active member of half a dozen charitable societies! As for brother John, he's clean discouraged and I don't wonder much at it. I don't believe he comes home to a warm supper once a week. It's my belief that it is a woman's business first to look after the comfort of her own family, then, if she has any time to do for others, well and good. Charity ought to begin at home, if it don't stay there."

"There's Aunt Nancy now, just coming into the gate," said her daughter Betsy, as looking up from the apples she was paring, she chanced to glance out of the window.

Indignant as she was, it was not in good natured Mrs. Lane's heart to refuse a kindly greeting to her sister-in-law, who was evidently too full of her own concerns to have noticed any lack of cordiality, had there been any.

"Always cooking I do declare! Ah, how it makes my heart ache to see you spending so much precious time in caring for this poor, perishing body."

"Folks cannot live without eating," responded Mrs. Lane, a little tartly, as this remark called to mind what she considered to be her sister-in-law's remissness in the care of her family. "Leastways, I haven't found out any other way of living."

"You always did make nice doughnuts, Malinda," said Mrs. Shaw, very composedly helping herself to one.

"These are as light as a honey-comb," she added, as she broke it open and proceeded to dispose of it with evident satisfaction. "I don't know when I have made any kind of pastry. Professor Spare, who lectured here last winter, says that they are very unhealthy, entirely destroying what he called the digestive apparatus."

"Yes, I know," returned Mrs. Lane, dryly. "Husband invited him home to tea one day, and I couldn't perceive that he had any particular objections to my cakes and pies. Indeed, I remember thinking, that if that was his ordinary way of eating, I shouldn't like to be the one to cook for him. And let folks say what they may, I never will think that plain light pastry, eaten moderately, ever hurt anybody. I always let my children have it, and they are as hearty and robust a set of boys and girls as you can find anywhere; and I am sure they wouldn't be if they were fed on cold, half-cooked victuals, given to them in any way, and just when it happened!"

"It isn't always the rosiest and freshest children that are the healthiest," said Mrs. Shaw, helping herself to another doughnut. "Now I think of it, I am certain that I can see a pimple on Betsy's nose—a sure proof of over eating; and John Thomas isn't high so strong as my Johnny, who isn't more'n a year or so the oldest. But I guess I'll do my errand, and be going. I called to tell you that we are going to have a Fair for the benefit of the oppressed Poles. I'm on the Committee of Arrangements, and really hope, sister Lane, that you'll take right hold and do everything in your power to forward this noble and praiseworthy object."

[TO BE CONTINUED.]