

## FOR FARMERS AND GARDENERS.

## AUTUMN VERSES.

BY CRADOCK NEWTON.

Sad earth! that spreadest garments of dead leaves  
O'er thy fast-fading summer loveliness,  
Take thou the solemn woe of her that grieves  
For her lost children, and is comfortless!

Wall for the wrongs that ride in drunken state—  
That tread the wine-press of thy children's gore!  
Wall for the temples that are desolate—  
The hearths forsok—the liberties no more!

And let thy loud-lamenting winds, that cry  
Like voices of quelled Titans, old and blind,  
Go to and fro—speak through them mightily  
Thy mourning for the wrongs of human-kind!

From Eden-verge, to where the mystic Seven  
Stand round the Throne, flood with tumultuous  
breath,  
That so the tarrying Arm may burst through heaven,  
And smite the hoary tyranny to death.

## A Long Island Prize Farm.

In 1851 and 1852, says the *Genesee Farmer*, the American [Agricultural] Institute awarded to E. H. Kimball, Esq., of Flatlands, Kings county, Long Island, the first premium for the best cultivated farm of one hundred acres.

This farm is situated about eight miles from the city of New York on the shore of Jamaica bay, which affords a very convenient water communication with the city.

The *Farmer* gives the following description of this noted farm:

## THE SOIL

Is an exceedingly fine, friable loam, with a thin layer of clay lying on a gravelly subsoil, which affords excellent drainage. There is not a stone on the farm. From its peculiar location, sea weed and drift can be had in great quantities, and they are placed in the cattle yards, where they are converted into excellent manure. A considerable quantity of manure is also brought from New York. This is made into a compost with the manure of the farm, muck, leached ashes, bone-dust, etc., the heap being covered with sea weed and drift, which absorb the ammonia. The heap is turned once or twice, till it is thoroughly rotted, and so fine that it can be spread with a shovel without adhering to it.

## THE MANURE

Is applied wholly to spring crops, and Mr. K. is undoubtedly right in decomposing it as much as possible, as in such condition it acts with great rapidity, and pushes the plants forward during the early stages of their growth. He attributes much of his success to this method of composting manures; but it must not be forgotten that the soil is naturally rich, and also that manures are used with great liberality.

## THE PRINCIPAL CROP

Raised on the farm is potatoes, the main object being to get them early, while they command a high price. They are planted in rows three feet apart, and from ten to twelve inches in the rows. The land is first plowed, and harrowed till in fine tilth; drills are then opened, and a sprinkling of Peruvian guano—say 50 lbs. per acre—scattered in the drills; the thoroughly rotted, composted manure, previously alluded to, is then spread in the rows, and the seed planted on the manure and covered with the plow. Before the potatoes make their appearance, the land is harrowed for the purpose of breaking the crust and killing the weeds. The cultivator and plow are frequently used, and at the time of our visit nothing could exceed the cleanliness and mellowness of the ground and the luxuriansness of the crop. The varieties mainly planted are the *Early June* and *Blue Mercer*. The former are dug and sent to market before they are fully ripe, and are sold at a very high price.

## AFTER CROPS.

As soon as the early potatoes are dug the land is planted with cabbage, celery, spinach, or ruta bagas. Celery is very profitable, and the necessary deep tillage and heavy manuring render the soil exceedingly fertile for subsequent crops. Mr. K. had four acres of celery last season, and intends to plant ten acres the present year.

## HOT BEDS.

Mr. Kimball has two rows of hot-beds, each row about two hundred feet long and nine feet wide, covered with sash. From these beds he has sold this spring over \$300 worth of lettuce, and the beds at the time of our visit were occupied with cucumbers, \$200 worth having been already sold.

## WHEAT.

A few acres only are sown with wheat—but such wheat we have not seen elsewhere the present year. It is the *Mediterranean*. Mr. K. formerly sowed the *Bergen* wheat, a variety originating in the neighborhood. It appears that Mr. Bergen discovered a single head of this variety growing in a field of wheat. He kept it separate, and soon raised enough to furnish seed for himself and neighbors. It was known as the *White Bergen*, and has frequently taken prizes at the Fairs of the American Institute. Unfortunately, during the excitement in regard to the Australian wheat a few years ago, the *Bergen* was abandoned, and now none can be found. It was an early and every way excellent variety, and far superior to the Australian, which, in fact, is now little cultivated.

In this connection, the *Farmer* takes the opportunity of suggesting that, in conjunction with underdraining, judicious manuring, and good cultivation, an early and productive variety of wheat of good quality would do much toward enabling farmers at the East to bid defiance to that terrible pest, the wheat midge, and the history of the *Bergen* wheat should stimulate us to greater activity and hopefulness in our endeavors to discover such a variety.

## MEADOWS.

The crops of timothy and clover on this farm were very fine. The land is seeded down with wheat—the timothy being sown in the fall and the clover in the spring. When the land is once stocked, it is allowed to remain in meadow as long as it will produce, without top dressing, two tons of clean timothy hay per acre, which it will generally do for five or six years. When plowed, it is planted with corn, followed by potatoes, with a second crop of cabbage or turnips. The next year it is also planted with potatoes, and is then sown with wheat and seeded down. Each crop is well manured, except the turnips.

## STOCK.

All the stock on the farm is soiled in the yards during the summer—a practice which affords a large quantity of excellent manure, and enables the farmer to dispense, in a good degree, with fences. Of course, it does not follow, because soiling is profitable on a farm contiguous to a large city, where labor is cheap (Mr. K. pays his men from \$5 to \$10 per month and board) and produce high, that it would pay where land and produce are cheap and labor dear.

## SUGAR BEETS, CARROTS, PARSNIPS

And other roots, are extensively grown as food for stock. They are all sown in drills, after subsoil plowing, and are heavily manured in the drills, great care being taken to have the manure thoroughly rotted and intimately incorporated with the soil.

## THE PROFITS

Of this farm are fully fifty dollars per acre; and Mr. K. says he shall not be satisfied till his hundred acres net him \$10,000 per annum!

## BEAUTY OF THE GROUNDS.

But the excellent system of cultivation so successfully and profitably adopted on this beautiful farm, is not its only feature of interest. We have seldom seen, even in England, a more charming country residence. As you approach the place, an American Arbor Vitæ hedge and an avenue of Ailanthus trees indicate more than ordinary taste. He enters the admirably laid out and well kept grounds between two noble specimens of that handsomest of hardy evergreens, the Norway Spruce.—Each step along the finely graveled carriage way reveals some new view of the beautiful lawn in front of a large and homelike country house, surrounded on three sides with a piazza, the pillars of which are encircled with sweet-scented honeysuckles.

## FLOWERS, SHRUBBERY, AND TREES.

Let us stop and look at these fine Paulownias, shedding their large blue flowers in rich profusion on the close mown grass; here is the delicate Persian Lilac, and there the rough but handsome *Pyrus Japonica*; to the right is the trunk of a dead Maple tree covered with graceful vines, and in that clump of evergreens nestles a cozy arbor. How pleasing to the eye are these American and Chinese Arbor Vitæ! how handsome those Austrian and Weymouth pines! Delicious is the fragrance shed by these European Lindens on the ocean air. How handsome and graceful are these pendulous American Elms! how beautiful those Sycamores, Laburnums, and Magnolias! what fine beds of Geraniums, Fuchsias, and Verbenas! Who would reside in the city, even in a city mansion, when he could retire to such a scene as this?

The *Germantown Telegraph*, in an article on thorough, systematic farming, alluding to the farm of Mr. Ellwood Tyson, in Abington, eight or ten miles north of Germantown, says:

"Everywhere we found the hand of the thorough farmer. The cleanliness of the land—the condition of the fences—the extent, arrangement, and tidiness of the barns, out-buildings, and yards; the gentility and comfort of the mansion, and the taste exhibited in the grounds connected therewith, the choice selection of trees, plants, etc.—all evinced the industrious, painstaking, intelligent, successful farmer."

Much has been done by the people of Utah, during the few years since their first settlement here, towards establishing comfortable homes and tastefully arranged grounds, especially in this city. The mansions and gardens of His Excellency Ex-Governor Young have been justly admired by all travelers who have visited this mountainous region. Those of Pres. H. C. Kimball are also worthy of note, as also the premises of many other enterprising citizens. Our farmers, however, have not as yet so generally as might be, directed their attention to this matter—namely—the systematic culture of their lands and the adornment of the grounds around their residences.

What say you, farmers? Who is there among you that cannot this fall—now, before winter sets in—haul out and spread out some

of your best manure over what is now appropriated as door-yard or a common range for cattle, hogs, dogs, pigs, chickens and children? Now, if you can moisten your land sufficient to plow, turn the manure coating under, there to lie and mix with the soil during the winter. In the spring, the manure having considerably decomposed, plow the same ground again, deeper than before, if possible, then harrow thoroughly immediately after plowing.

The above is, in our opinion, the best plan for a farmer to adopt to prepare, the ensuing year, for cultivating a garden and to make a start towards improving his mode of culture and making his homestead more habitable and inviting. If, however, it should be thought, in any locality, too much labor to irrigate the small patch of land required for a domestic garden, as a requisite for fall plowing; or, if any of our good farmers are so over-head-and-ears in other speculations that this would be out of the question; then let your manure remain in a sheltered place till spring and, as soon as the ground is in a condition to work, go to and do as we have indicated; or, if you prefer, try some other practice; but, at all events, we urge upon you the necessity of having a farm-house garden and beautifying the grounds around your cottages, humble though they be, with trees, and shrubs, and flowers, and walks, and rural bowers. For the consideration of those who think well of our suggestions and who set about practicing upon them, it will be proper to add that, after your ground has been plowed, determine the lines of all the walks required for convenient access to the wood-yard, the stables, barn-yard, pig-pens and all other out-houses, giving suitable width to those walks—say from three to five feet—and thus avoid treading all over the plowed ground, which would make it hard and impenetrable to the melting snows of winter and the genial rains of fall and spring.

It may also be well to say, here, though this subject will be treated more at length at the proper time, that the subdivision of the garden into small beds, practiced by some, is wholly superfluous and, indeed, a detriment in irrigating. This is a remnant of the practice in those countries where irrigation is not known and is quite inapplicable here.

Why should not the farmer have his fenced yards and garden, his orchard and his rows and groves of shade and ornamental trees, as well as the denizen of the city? If one possesses greater faculties for making such improvements, it seems to us that the preponderance is decidedly in favor of the farmer, who, by his own labor and appliances, can accomplish that for which the citizen of the metropolis must pay out large amounts.

To come at once to the point, we may state, without giving any offence, that farmers have not failed to make the improvements we allude to because they were too expensive, but simply because, in the first place, they have not summoned their attention in that direction and consequently have not put forth the little extra exertion required for their accomplishment.

We wish, now, to direct the attention of all our enterprising farmers to this matter, assuring them that, if they once commence the desired improvements, the result will be highly advantageous to themselves, "spiritually and temporally," and the example thus set will be a source of more or less benefit to their indifferent neighbors, if they should have any, who, possibly, may derive therefrom some valuable lessons in domestic economy, how to succeed in business and how to prepare for a more elevated sphere of existence.

We do not wish it to be understood that, in thus pertinently calling the attention of farmers particularly to the subject of improvement in their out-door as well as in-door appointments, that they are the only class to whom reform should be intimated.

As we have already stated, we are persuaded that farmers in general are better prepared for making substantial improvements—especially in whatever pertains to soil culture, fruit-growing, kitchen and landscape gardening, than any others. They have extended grounds; they have (or may have, by a little care) manures in any quantity desired, and they have all the necessary implements.

If it is alleged by way of excuse, by any farmer in Utah, that he is not in possession of the information desirable to ensure success in this great and important work of improvement, we reply, use the tact and perseverance—the reflective faculties with which you are naturally endowed and experience will soon afford you a fund of information that will increase perpetually.

Moreover, that valuable aid may be derived by the farmer from the columns of a well-conducted agricultural journal, none will question. We would that in every family there were such a journal. Would the farmers of Utah support one in this Territory? So soon as they are ready to do so we doubt not such an enterprise will be started.

However, we may say, in concluding for the present, that all of the comfortable houses and tastefully laid off grounds and gardens are not found in the city; neither are all the neglected, desolate-looking habitations and poorly cultivated, unimproved lands found in the country.

## "Domestic Gardeners' Club."

We are informed that, on Saturday evening last, a few gentlemen met and formed themselves into a little club, adopting the concise name of "Domestic Gardeners' Club." We hail this and all kindred organizations as harbingers of good for the future advancement of Utah in the development of the most approved and most practical modes of cultivating the soil.

This club, we understand, is limited in number, to fifteen or twenty. The meetings are to be held weekly.

We shall be glad to hear of the formation of other agricultural clubs in different parts of this city, as also in the various settlements throughout the Territory.

As we have no particular political objects to promote or clique or party to support, of course we have no apprehensions of hearing that any our farmers' clubs have been transformed into caucus meetings; we therefore trust that, in all their club deliberations, our farmers, gardeners and all associated with these organizations, will rigidly "stick to the text" and not permit their investigations to be distracted by the introduction of any subjects foreign to the avowed objects of their meeting.

**Grapes and Wine.**—It is stated that the Grape crop of the Ohio valley is this year the largest since 1853. In Maryland, Tennessee, Georgia and North and South Carolina, late frosts and rot have diminished the crop at least one half.

Within twenty miles around Cincinnati, says an exchange, about 2,000 acres are in vineyards, which are estimated to yield this year, 350 gallons of wine to the acre, on an average. Some vineyards will produce 600 to 800 gallons to the acre; others, from neglect, not more than 150.

In a report on grape culture, to the Cincinnati Horticultural Society, Sept. 3, Mr. Buchanan stated that he had invariably found the largest crops in the best pruned and best cultivated vineyards; that the vintage will be two weeks earlier this season than usual, and that the quality of the wine should be good, for the grapes abound in juice and saccharine matter.

**New Agricultural Product.**—It is stated that, at the National Agricultural Exhibition, held September last, in Chicago, Ill., there were exhibited among the premium stock, three babies born at a birth—two boys and a girl—children of Joseph and Teresa Ondastroke. A silver spoon was presented to each and a considerable amount collected and paid to the parents. It is understood that, at the next National Exhibition, there will be regular premiums offered for baby stock.

**The Sorghum Cane**, we are informed, wherever it was not ripe at the time of the first severe frost, has been somewhat injured—the frost causing the juice to become more or less sour.

Our manufacturers have been able, however, by dint of skill and labor, to in some degree counteract the acid and turn off a very fair sample of molasses.

**The Receipts** at the late National Exhibition, held at Chicago, were \$33,000. Those at the National Exhibition of 1858, held at Richmond, Va., were only \$7,464.50. That of 1857, held in Lexington, Ky., was about \$15,000. In 1856, when held at Philadelphia, the receipts were \$40,000. The conclusions are that a slave State is not the most profitable place for holding an agriculture exhibition.

**Hay for Sheep.**—It is said that a sheep requires 3-1-2 per cent. of its weight per day. An ordinary flock of sheep may be estimated at 60 lbs each. It will be safe upon this basis to provide hay enough to feed each sheep 2-1-4 lbs a day. This is a matter to be thought of during the grass-growing months.