AUTUMNAL TIME.

BY ISAAC MCLELLAN.

Now in celestial robes are drest,
The fair Autumnal skies;
Magnificent in royal pomp,
Rich with resplendent dyes;
When all the blended glories,
That flush the arch'd rainbow,
Along the sunset heavens
In rare effulgence glow,
Each form and hue of beauty,
And each enchanting grace,
On cloud, on stream, on forest,
And mountain top I trace;
In woods, the regal maples
Wear each a diadem:
The oaks are strung with jewels,
Each color'd leaf a gem.

With wreaths and chaplets garlanded,
The bending woodlands stand;
All radiant as the gardens,
In the enchanted land;
Waving all its flaunting banners,
Fair the landscape beams,
Fair as that celestial country,
In the fairy-land of dreams.
Dropping fruits from laden orchards
Stain with ripen'd wealth the ground;
All the woods around are vocal
With the children's joyous sound;
Reapers in the harvest fields
Bind the rustling sheaves of grain,
And the golden Indian corn:
Heaps the loaded wain.
Now the cider-press its nectar
Poureth in a constant tide,
Now the purple grapes are gather'd,
By the rushing river's tide;
From the dusty threshing floor
Sounds loud the busy flail,
And the moonlight nights are joyous
With the dance and tale.

O, merry autumn! with thy days
So gloriously bright;
Thy rosy dawns, thy dewy eves,
Thy harvest moons at night;
Methinks in all the varied year,
There's no such happy time,
As when the gay autumnal days;
Are in maturest prime.

SHEEP HUSBANDRY.

At the late New York State Fair held at Elmira, meetings for discussion were held in the evening in which many practical farmers from various sections of the State and some from other States, and from Canada who were in attendance took part. Various subjects were discussed and much valuable information elicited. The speeches were limited to ten minutes.

Among the subjects that were discussed, Sheep husbandry was not the least important, and from the report of the speeches on the occasion, published in the *Country Gentleman*, we make the following extracts, which may be interesting to sheep raisers in this Territory.

JOHN WADE of C. W., stated that he finds it advantageous to feed well,—gives his sheep "all they want," but has never measured the quantity. He prefers the long-wooled breeds, and shears about 8 lbs. of washed wool per head. In order to keep up the vigor and hardiness of the Leicesters, he has to cross them with the larger and stouter Cotswolds. He remarked that Bakewell procured all the best animals he could find around him, and bred from them in-and-in, which injured their stamina, and rendered necessary a resort to Cotswold blood.

JOHN S. PETTIBONE of Vermont, had long been convinced that for a farmer who has but 50 or 75 sheep, it is best to keep the larger mutton breeds; but for a flock 300 to 1,000, the fine-wooled would be the most profitable. A common cause of failure is in allowing the animals to run down in condition in autumn, at a time when the amount of feeders has increased by the growth of lambs, and the feed lessened. He regarded it important to have plenty of pasture and hay, which will maintain a good condition, but remarked "grain will do no hurt." He keeps them close and well sheltered during winter, and never lost but two lambs, which were by accidental injury. He said that one great secret of success was to attend to their flocks personally, and good care would be the result—he never knew a man to look at his pig while it was feeding unless it was fine and fat—the man who has poor animals always gives the food and then runs away. He never sells his best, but always keeps his best sheep—he keeps a record, and has them all registered, and no one can buy of him any that are marked "*best*." He does not like excessively gummy sheep, and has known one to shear 22 lbs, but give less wool when washed than a clean-wooled one of 13 lbs; yet many differ from him, because every one thinks "*my* sheep are best." He said gummy sheep are less protected from the cold, and are as tender as a cabage-plant, and shiver in winter like a man with fever and ague.

——BAKER of Urbana, Steuben Co., has kept fine-wooled sheep—his management is to give his lambs a very little grain beginning in October, and continuing till winter—he then yards them where there is always a supply of water, feeds them in racks twice a day just what they will eat and no more. He has never raised the coarse-wool breeds—his fleeces are not gummy, and yield 4 1-4 to 4 1-2 lbs. per head, and sometimes more. He winters 400 head in a barn divided into three parts by a low board fence. The proceeds of his flock vary considerably, but average about two dollars per head annually. He is very particular to feed them always at the same time of day, with great regularity. He gives straw only a part of the time—if given constantly, he would add grain. He maintained that there is nothing like a flock of sheep to keep up the fertility of land; has kept 800 sheep a year on something less than 200 acres of land, including the hay and pasture for them; and has made the land so fertile as to raise 120 bushels of shelled corn on an acre. He feeds potatoes, beets, or carrots, to the ewes 20 days before lambing, and regards potatoes as the richest food, and beets the easiest raised on his land.

Gen. HARMON of Monroe Co., commenced sheep husbandry with the fine-wooled or Merino. After a few years, he crossed with Leicester,—then gave up the cross, and returned to the find-wools. He greatly prefers the latter on his fertile wheat lands; finds their compact fleeces will keep the water out, and for this reason are hardier than the long-wooled. When he first crossed with the latter, he gave twenty-five dollars for the use of a long-wool ram for 25 ewes, and then bought for $50 another ram of the same kind but would have made money had he given $50 to the man to keep him away. That was the amount of his experience with long wool-sheep. He does not allow ewes to have lambs under three years, and the fleeces average about five pounds. From 350 sheep he sold the last two years $700 worth of wool yearly—two years ago he had about 100 lambs, which he sold for $200 making $900 yearly proceeds. He occupies less than 200 acres, with mixed husbandry, feeds but little hay, but straw, corn, oats, and some bran—feeds in racks made of upright sticks set in holes bored in plank, nine inches apart, where the animals eat quietly without molesting one another. He washes the fleeces on the sheep till the water runs clear from them, and shears five to eight days afterwards. Shearers offered to do the work for six cents per head or for $1,75 per day—he accepted the former, but so large were the fleeces that they could make but $1,50 per day. He has fed his flock on 25 acres of reclaimed swamp, but remarked "there is no tallow in this land," it would merely keep the sheep but would not fatten them.

LEWIS F. ALLEN of Black Rock, stated that he had kept sheep about 25 years, and that he has found it to depend entirely on circumstances whether sheep raising, or coarse or fine wooled animals are profitable. He related the anecdote of the builders of the city wall—the mason advised stone, the carpenter wood, while the tanner thought the wall would be toughest if made of sole leather. So every man had his preference with sheep. It is important to look at circumstances—along the line of railroads and near cities the South Down are best, being easily sent to market as mutton—in more remote regions he would select the Merino. He sells the South Down at $5 or $6, and sometimes $8 or $9, per head, and his lambs for $2,50—the wool at 40 cents per pound. In answer to a question whether he could distinguish different breeds by the taste of the mutton in thin slices, he said he could—and remarked that fine wooled animals secreted much grease and thus prevented perspiration, and that he could "taste the wool" in the meat. He does not like the larger coarse wool animals, remarking that Canadians, who raise them so largely, have their predilections—he had seen ewes of these sorts in Canada weighing 200 lbs. and rams between 300 and 400 lbs. "and as fat as they could roll"—he defied any man to eat a full meal of them—they were sent to the St. Nicholas and other large hotels in New York, made a great show on the tables, and were much admired, but only a pound or two could be eaten off of a twenty-five pound piece, and the rest went to the tallow chandler—one might as well try to eat a cake of tallow. Roots should be fed cautiously to sheep, or they will scour, the danger being greater here than in England.

H. BOWEN, jr., of Orleans Co., has raised both kinds of sheep, fine and coarse wooled for the past seven or eight years. He lives 30 miles this side of L. F. Allen's, and also in a fine wheat region, and finds the coarse wools the most profitable for such lands, contrary to the expressed opinions of some previous speakers. His animals have averaged about 150 lbs. and sells for $5 to $10 or $12 per head; while the Merinos bring only $3. They have averaged six pounds of wool, which has sold at 31 cents per pound—some have yielded 8 lbs. He thinks they are a cross of Cotswold and Leicester, and says they have a compact fleece, and not loose and open, as had been previously objected to. He would prefer to have the sheep eat off his crop of clover and yield their manure, to plowing in the green crop.

SOLON ROBINSON said the South Down brings the best price in New York city,—and next to these, the long wool sheep of Canada—that generally the largest carcase (such as had been asserted as "only fit for the tallow chandler") brought the highest price per pound. Common butchers did not distinguish the difference,—"their *taste* was to make the most money they could,"—but a class of first-rate retail market butchers pay a higher price for the best.

FALL PLOWING.

So far as our knowledge has extended, there has been but very little plowing done in the fall by the farmers of Utah, for some years past, from what cause we know not. It may be that they have ascertained by actual experiments, that fall plowing is not profitable, though it is somewhat questionable whether many of them have ever experimented either in plowing or in anything else connected with the raising of crops in these valleys sufficiently to know what modes of culture are best suited to the soil they severally cultivate; if they have made any satisfactory experiments of the kind they have been very careful in keeping the knowledge thus derived to themselves.

We have often wished that the farmers and stock raisers in various parts of the Territory would communicate the results of what experiments they have made, for the benefit of others. This being a new country—unlike, in many respects, any other portion of the United States—the modes of culture followed in other places, may not always be applicable to the soil and climate existing here, and it is and should be considered obligatory upon those who are engaged in any pursuit tending to the advancement of the common interests of community, to impart to others, less skilled than themselves, such items of useful knowledge as they may have derived from their experience in plowing, sowing, manuring or whatever may be connected with the successful and profitable tillage of the earth. If some of those who have given the subject due consideration and have benefited themselves by making experiments in those matters, would lead out, others might be induced to follow, and great benefits might be expected to flow to agriculturists generally throughout the Territory from a course of that kind, and many would be led to inquire whether the course heretofore pursued by them in growing wheat, corn, rye, oats, barley, &c., by simply plowing their fields at any and all seasons of the year, whenever it best suited their convenience, and applying the water to their crops without any reference to time or utility, excepting to use all the water they could get, was the most economical and profitable mode of tillage that could be adapted or not. That great improvements can be made upon the present system we verily believe; and that by experimenting, in process of time, more grain can be produced with the same amount of labor and expense than there is now, and that, by judicious management in the plowing and preparing the ground for the seed, and sowing it at the right time, less water will be requisite to bring most kinds of grain to maturity than is needed when all the plowing and sowing is done in the spring, and consequently much of it is not done till the ground has become so dry that it has to be irrigated before the seed sown will germinate.

The following remarks on plowing land in the fall, from the *American Agriculturist*, are subjoined, and if any of the farmers in this country know from experience that the facts set forth therein are not true, let them speak and tell wherein they are incorrect and not applicable in this Territory:

All lands, except light loams and sandy soils, are benefited by fall plowing, unless they are exposed to washing. Steep side hills should never be plowed in the fall, unless you sow them immediately with grain or grass seed, to furnish roots for holding the soil in place.

But all heavy loams lying flat, and clays, are greatly benefited by fall plowing. The teams are generally in the best condition for plowing at this season. They have had good pasturage through the summer, and, as a rule, have less to do than in the winter and spring. It puts the spring work very much ahead to have all the green sward turned over in the fall. However much of this may be done, the teams will have enough to do in the spring, in carting manure, cross-plowing, harrowing, and getting ready for sowing and planting.

In the fall, the lands that are most benefited by plowing, are generally in the best condition for the operation. In the spring, they are often so wet that they can not be plowed until May or June. Now, they are dry, and will crumble as they are turned over.

By plowing now, they are prepared to receive the full benefit of the action of frost, rain and snow through winter. There are no disintegrators like the elements. Stiff clays and hard-pans are made loose and friable by these exposures. The more rough and broken they are left by the plow, the better. Then, there are rough pasture swards full of brush and rank weeds, and reclaimed swamps with a thick turf of swamp grasses that are best subdued by tearing them up now. They freeze and thaw through the winter, and little life is left in them by spring.

Besides this, plowing has an important influence upon insect life. Many insects burrow in the earth, and if left undisturbed, come forth with new life in the spring. Plowing disturbs their winter arrangements, and kills myriads of their larvæ. At this season the soil may be safely plowed deeper than in the spring. The inch or two of yellow soil will undergo important changes before spring.

Utah County Agricultural Society.

The report of the premiums awarded at the late Fair at Provo, was not forwarded in season for publication entire. The following, omitting the amount of the awards, is all we had space for in this number:

Best Stallion	Stephen Chipman
2d best	Joseph Beck
Best Brood mare	Thos. Matthews
2d best	Abraham Hatch
Best Colt	Gideon D. Wood
2d best	do
Best span Native horses	A. Taylor
Best Durham bull	John R. Murdock
Best yoke Native oxen	O. Simons
2d best	William Miller
Best Cow	do
2d best	do
Best Boar	Thos. J. Patten
Best yoke two-year old steers	A. P. Winsor
Best yoke three-year old do	E. Holden
Best fenced and cultivated garden	Abraham Hatch
Best 1-4 acre sugar cane	J. G. Wilkins
2d best	A. P. Winsor
Best acre wheat	R. T. Thomas
2d best	George Patten
Best acre corn	A. Halliday
2d best	D. W. Rogers
Best 1-2 acre oats	do
2d best	R. H. Rogers
Best 1-2 acre potatoes	E. Holden
2d best	A. P. Winsor
Best 1-2 acre cultivated grass	do
Best 10 lbs flax	A. H. Scott
Best 1-2 acre hemp	James Stratton
Best sample wheat	G. E. Steele
2d best	A. H. Scott
Best sample Indian corn	A. Halliday
2d best	E. Holden
Best sample broom corn	A. H. Scott
2d best	D. W. Rogers
Best sample flour	O. Simons
2d best	M. Tanner
Best 1-2 doz apples	A. H. Scott
2d best	do
Best 1-2 doz peaches	D. E. Bunnell
2d best	David Cluff, sen.
Best specimen grapes	Edw. Mecham
Best quart plums	Joseph Burton
do walnuts	Jacob Young
do currants	Cyrus Snell
do strawberries	Edward Watts
do grain cradle	H. Thornton
do spinning wheel	D. E. Bunnell
do hay fork	W. A. Beebee
do thrashing machine	Messrs. Colton & Smith
do auger	W. A. Beebee
do side sole leather	Samuel Clark
2d best	A. L. Tousig
Best side upper leather	Geo. W. Hancock
2d best	Daniel Allen
Best kip skin	G. W. Hancock
Best calf skin	Samuel Clark
2d best	do
Best side harness leather	G. W. Hancock
do pair gent's fine boots	Jas. Butler
do heavy boots	L. Burdick
2d best	James Butler
Best pair gent's fine shoes	James Smith
2d best	Daniel Allen
Best pair women's shoes	James Butler
Best piece colored flannel	Mrs. Wm. Fausett
2d best	" John H. Moore
Best piece white flannel	" A. Norton
2d best	" Lydia Knight
Best piece colored jeans	" G. W. Bean
2d best	" D. Canfield
Best piece colored linsey	" A. Norton
2d best	" A. M. York
Best piece white linsey	" E. Z. Winsor
do kersey	do
do table linen	" J. C. Snow
2d best	" C. Peterson
Best piece gray jeans	" Winsor
2d best	" D. Canfield
Best pair woolen blankets	" J. H. Moore
2d best	" Louis Newell
Best piece woolen carpet	" A. J. Stewart
do rag carpet	" Sarah Butler
2d best	" Mary Peck
Best coverlit	" A. Norton
2d best	do
Best hearth rug	" Rhoda Snell
Best woolen shawl	" A. Norton
2d best	" Hannah Smith
Best piece linen	" W. Faussett
2d best	" Lucy Smith
Best linen thread	" H. Roberts
Best rocking chair	D. Cluff, jr.
Best sett chairs	do
Best window sash	do
Best cooper ware	Chas. Bowers
Best specimen turning	D. E. Bunnell
Best do sign painting	D. Graves
Best do graining	John Stewart
Best cut nails	Messrs. Sabin & Co.
Best 50 feet of rope	Jas. Stratton
Best basket	D. Graves
Best earthen ware	H. Roberts
Best lasts	H. Clegg
Best shoe pegs	Stephen Bond
Best sickle	W. Halliday
Best horse shoes	do
Best ox shoes	do