

THE MICHIGAN FARMER



FOR TOWN AND COUNTRY.
AND FAMILY MESSENGER.

NEW SERIES. DETROIT, SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 22, 1862. VOL. IV., NO. 4.

THE MICHIGAN FARMER,

A SEMI-MONTHLY Agricultural and Family Paper, designed to interest and entertain Farmers, Stock-Raisers, Fruit-Growers, Mechanics, and the Families of all classes.

PUBLISHED FIRST AND THIRD SATURDAYS OF EACH MONTH.

WM. M. DOTY, EDITOR AND PROPRIETOR.

R. F. JOHNSTON, Corresponding Editor.

Contributors:
T. T. LYON, of Plymouth, Horticultural Contributor.
PROF. L. R. FISK, of Lansing;
FRANK LITTLE, of Kalamazoo;
J. H. SANDFORD, of Wright;
E. B. DIXON, of Ypsilanti;
MRS. M. P. A. CROZIER, of Grand Rapids;
And practical Farmers, Fruit-Growers, Stock-Raisers and Housekeepers in various parts of the state.

Postmasters, Clergymen, Teachers, and Others,

Are invited to get up clubs for the FARMER, and thus secure a copy for themselves. See our club terms.

P. S. Will our patrons point out the above to Postmasters, Clergymen, Teachers, etc., in their vicinity, and greatly oblige us?

TERMS.—One copy \$1.00; five copies \$4; ten copies \$7; twenty copies \$12; payable strictly in advance.

AN EXTRA COPY TO ALL WHO GET UP CLUBS.

Detroit Weekly Advertiser, Free Press or Tribune furnished with the MICHIGAN FARMER for only \$2 a year. Both just the thing for farmers.

Our Club subscribers wishing either of the above papers will remit an extra dollar.

Office—311 Fort Street (1/4 mile west of the Russell House).

Down-Town Office.—Allen's Book Store, 153, Jefferson Avenue. Office subscribers will find their papers at ALLEN'S. A slate will be found there on which to write orders, requests, or business of any kind. We call there every week-day morning, between 8 and 9 o'clock.

EXPLANATION.—T. at all may see just how their account with the Farmer stands at all times we have adopted the following practice: All subscriptions will expire with one of the months of the year. Those whose names have no figures after them on the address slip have paid or been paid for till January 1st, 1862; those having a figure 2, to the second month—February—of this year; those having a figure 3, to the third month of next year; those having a figure 4, to the fourth month of next year; those having a figure 5, to the fifth month of next year;—1863,—and so on.

NOTICE.—When a person receives the Farmer, the bare receipt of it is evidence that the recipient, or some other person, has paid for it, or else that we intend to make a gift of it.

Those who receive an unnumbered copy will please understand us as saying **Please Subscribe!**

Contents of this Number.

A Good Letter.....	58
A Harnessing Arrangement.....	56
Annual Meeting of the Executive Committee of the Michigan State Agricultural Society.....	56
Army Correspondence.....	64
Baby May.....	55
Care of Horses.....	60
Circular.....	63
Commercial Department.....	64
Competition to Stop Leakage.....	60
Crab Apple Tree Hedges.....	61
Culture of Flax.....	53
Down With the Dogs.....	62
Gardening—Treatment of Soils, &c.....	56
Going into Sorghum.....	60
Good Advice.....	65
"Hurrah!".....	65
Improved Fruit Cellar.....	61
Information About Drainage.....	62
List of Fruits Worthy of General Cultivation for Amateurs.....	60
Loss from Weeds.....	62
Matthew.....	68
Michigan Stock Register.—Short-horns.....	67
More of the Michigan Grape.....	66
Newspapers to Protect Trees against Rabbits.....	63
Notes about Stock around Plymouth.....	67
No Receipts Needed.....	63
Number of Seeds in a Bushel.....	60
Osgo Orange Plants Wanted.....	60
Questions for the Young Folks.....	62
Raising Figs at the North.....	61
Retribution.....	64
Scrubbing and Washing Trees.....	61
Size of a Bushel Box.....	62
Soup vs. Civilization.....	65
Statistues of the State of Michigan.....	62
Superphosphate of Lime.....	60
Talking to Children.....	65
The Apple-Tree Borer.....	61
The Osier-Willow.....	60
To Keep Ice from Shop Windows.....	60
Training Horses.....	67
Units of Horse Power.....	60
Useful Medical Hints.....	65
Use of the Plow in Draining.....	60
West Highland Cattle.....	68
Who?.....	60

Salt Good for Wheat.

We have heretofore dwelt upon the desirability of applying salt as a fertilizer wherever and whenever it will probably pay, because it is a product of our own State and therefore cheap and abundant; and we have mentioned some of its known uses. We intend to keep a sharp lookout for further information on this point, and are warranted in now adding, upon the important testimony of the experienced and intelligent John Johnson, of Geneva, N. Y., that salt has proved to be very beneficial to wheat, giving a stronger and brighter straw and a heavier kernel. He used two bushels to the acre, sown broadcast and harrowed in. Farmers, try a portion of your crop, and report the result.

To Fruitgrowers.

If you are not fully awake to the benefits of underdraining, read the remarks of Hon. Mr. Cary, of Maine, to be found under the caption, "Interesting Remarks upon Underdraining." We are fully satisfied that underdraining is vastly beneficial to all kinds of fruit trees, and grape vines.

Perhaps it may be asked if nature can be improved upon—if the All-wise Creator has made a mistake in not giving the land sufficient drainage facilities.—We would suggest that cultivated land will absorb far more water than that the sod of which is unbroken. Does any one doubt this?—And does it not answer the question?

Cause of Delay.

When this edition was about half printed our press broke in a manner that required a new casting.

STRING HALT.—MR. JOHN JONES, of Oak Grove, inquires for a remedy for String Halt—case not serious, nor of long standing. Can any reader of the FARMER give a remedy?

HUNGARIAN GRASS NOT GOOD FOR SHEEP.

—MR. G. H. RICHARDS, of Buchanan, has had some experience in this matter, and he has concluded that it has caused a loss of sheep. The grass seems to affect and impede the passage of water, rendering urination difficult and painful. As we have hitherto said, it is probably too hearty. Mr. R. thinks Timothy a good deal better grass than the Hungarian.

For the Michigan Farmer.

Noted People of the Bible.

BY SLOW JAMIE.—NUMBER SIXTY-THREE.

MATTHEW.

Sitting by the sea of Galilee, to collect taxes from the fishermen, sat Matthew the publican. At the word of Christ he left all and followed the Savior. When Elijah called Elisha to be a prophet, he made an entertainment for his friends, that he might bid them good bye. Matthew did the same. The apostle, however, was careful to have his master at it, that his conversation might have a good influence on the publicans and sinners present. The self-righteous pharisees took occasion to find fault with Jesus, for associating with such characters, but he let them know that it was sinners he came to save, not the righteous.

When the apostles were occasionally sent out two and two to preach, men of opposite characters were joined together, that the gifts of one might make up the defects of another. Matthew was sent with Thomas.—This latter was excitable and affectionate, but timid and unreliable, as appears by his absence and unbelief after Christ's resurrection. It was suitable that he should be associated with a man like Matthew, substantial and steady, but perhaps less showy and attractive.

After our Lord's ascension, Matthew labored for about eight years at Jerusalem.—After that he went among the Gentiles, first in Parthia, and then in Ethiopia. In the latter place he was killed by the heathen. These particulars we learn by tradition.

Before he left Jerusalem he was requested by the Christians to write a history of Christ's life. This he was well qualified to do, both because he was the most learned of the disciples, and because he was early a follower of Christ.

As his gospel was written before many of the Gentiles were converted, so it is intended principally for the Jewish converts. He quotes more texts from the old testament than any of the rest. He gives the genealogy of Joseph. This would be of interest to the Jews, but of no account to others.—They were looking for a temporal kingdom, and a prince of the royal line of David.—New Joseph was the true heir of David's temporal crown, and although he was not the natural father of Jesus, yet he adopted him, and so transferred to him any right he might have to the kingdom. Luke was a Gentile and writing a gospel for the Gentile converts, gave the true genealogy of Christ, through Nathan, another son of David.

Matthew's gospel shows the concise style of one who can tell a story in a few words. It is the shortest except Mark's, yet it contains many things which the rest pass in silence. He often tells a story in a few verses, which, in Mark, takes up half a chapter. For this reason he is not so exact. In the ninth chapter he tells us that a certain ruler came and told Jesus that his daughter was already dead, but if he would come and lay

his hand upon her, he would raise her. New from Mark 5; 23 we learn that she was not dead when the ruler first came, but word followed him that she had died while they were on the way. So in the same connection he tells us that a certain woman touched him, and was healed, and Jesus turning around said, "Daughter, be of good comfort, thy faith hath made thee whole." But Mark tells us that he first inquired, "Who touched me?" and after some talk among others the woman came trembling, and told the whole truth. After that Christ added the words of comfort already mentioned. Now Matthew's account is just as true as Mark's, but the latter entering into particulars, gives us a more accurate account.

As he is short in anecdotes, so he is full in doctrines. His lengthy account of the beautiful sermons on the mount is an instance.

When Matthew tells of his own call he simply relates that when called he followed Christ; and afterwards when Jesus was sitting at meat in the house, the Pharisees took occasion to find fault with him. You would not know from him whose house it was in, nor yet that it was anything more than a common meal. But when Luke tells the same story he is careful to notice that Matthew, or Levi, as he calls him, left all to follow Christ. He states, too, that he made Christ a great feast in his own house, &c.

Those of an intellectual turn of mind with little passion or emotion, will prefer Matthew's style. He gives us a great deal of doctrine and less action. Those of a more lively temperament will prefer Mark's way of telling a story. He arouses your attention by telling all the circumstances, and hurries you along, with great animation, from one incident to another. This will be noticed again.

A Good Letter.

ED. FARMER:—I had about made up my mind to do without an agricultural paper this year, owing to the hardness of the times, but a perusal of the last number convinced me that I could not afford to do without the FARMER. It has long been a principle with me that so long as I took any, or but one agricultural journal it should be that published in my own State, and it appears to me if every farmer in Michigan would adopt the same principle it would be money (as that is generally a convincing argument) in their pockets in at least three ways

1st. Thousands of dollars would be retained in the State which now go out.

2nd. The information and instruction derived from a well-sustained home paper being specially adapted to our locality, soil and climate, would be more beneficial than a foreign one could possibly be.

3d. Such a journal thus sustained would cultivate and develop a spirit of enterprise, thrift, and an honorable State pride which could not fail to add many dollars in value to the farms and homes of our beautiful peninsula.

In soliciting subscriptions for the FARMER I often met with this reply, in substance "well, I know that what you say in regard to the advantages of a home paper is true but the women folks want an eastern paper and so I take one to please them and am not able to take two." It is time, it would seem, that farmers consulted the interests of their families as well as their fancies. An argument that will support the raising of sorghum here to the neglect or exclusion of a foreign article is equally good in favor of a home agricultural journal as against a foreign one. Get both if you want to, but get the home article anyhow.

I sat down to write about Sorghum. Mr. TOOKER's article interested me much; but there are some things in it which experience in this locality does not confirm; for instance, that cane may be cut up and left in shock safely. Those who have tried it here have found that it will become mouldy and seared up to the first joint, and that sirup made from such juice will not be first quality. Again, freezing is injurious, whether before or after cutting. A light frost will not affect it, but one that forms ice on water will damage it. Frost affects the joints first, and when injured by it the sap in the joints will be discolored and sour, as any one can see by cutting and tasting; and when this vitiated sap is mixed with the other it cannot be got out by any process known or practiced here. His article on the whole cannot fail to interest and profit those engaged in the business, and others will be induced to engage in it. The thing is passed beyond experiment and the question now is, how shall the business be prosecuted most successfully. Information is needed yet, and communications like his and others will do much towards giving it.

Let the Convention be held, and any who have light on the subject not withhold it.

C. QUICK.

Fairfield, Mich., Jan. 10th, 1862.

WEST HIGHLAND CATTLE.—A visitor at the New Brunswick Agricultural Exhibition, writes as follows in regard to a specimen of the West Highland cattle which he saw there: At the recent provincial Exhibition, at Sussex Vale, we got our first view of a living specimen of a breed of cattle just the antipodes of the Short Horns, in many of their leading characteristics. We recognised it instantly as a West Highlander, from its resemblance to the illustrations given in books. Rather small, long horns, turning upwards at the points, short, muscular limbs, a very shaggy coat, with a ridge of coarse hair on the neck, almost a mane. Hardy, beyond all other British breeds; thrifty, subsisting on the coarsest fare, and yielding beef which commands a higher price than all others, we have often wondered why some of our enterprising farmers have not before now introduced the breed into Maine.

Sandusky county, Ohio, has made a good quantity of Sorghum this season. The number of gallons manufactured and reported to the Fremont Journal is 12,315, which, at forty cent per gallon, saves to the farmers \$4,930.