AGRICULTURE.

FROM THE AMERICAN SENTINEL.

TO FARMERS, &c.

No. II.

Messrs. Frick & Co.

In my first number, published in your paper of the 6th inst. I promised that my succeeding essay should contain some general observations on the diseases, defects and injuries of different kinds of fruit trees, and that I would point out some remedies as I should proceed. In complying with my promise, I shall take the liberty to observe, partly in the language of Mr. Forsyth of Kensington who has had more than thirty year's practice in cultivating, pruning and keeping garden fruit trees, and I having had some experience myself, have observed, that from natural causes, accidents and unskilful management, they are subject to injuries of different kinds, which always diminished their fertility, and frequently rendered them wholly unproductive.

All trees that bear stone fruit are liable to emit a gum, which, by producing a canker, proves fatal to the health and vegetation of the tree.

Some receive injury from unskilful pruning, bad management, accidents, violence of high winds, having boughs and limbs broken off, which being left in a state exposed to the air and hard frosts, and too long soaking rains, the wounds imbibe so large a quantity of air, wet and moisture, as by causing a fermentation with the natural juices, brings on disease, & in a short time destroys the health and vegetation of the tree.

To remove these evils, and to prevent the ill consequences arising from the causes already described, I submit the following remedy, which has been applied with universal success to all kinds of fruit trees, and has not only prevented further decay, but actually restored vegetation and increased fruitfulness even in such as were apparently barren and decayed. It has produced also a similar effect on forest trees, by restoring them to soundness, and clothing them with fresh and vigorous foliage.

The remedy is either to apply some of the composition described in my first number, and in the manner therein also described; or, which I think is more preferable, take some of the composition, and mix therewith equal parts of urine and soap suds, so as to reduce it to the consistence of pretty thick paint, and lay it on the wounded parts of the trees with a painter's brush; when the powder of wood ashes and burnt bones must be applied as before directed in my first number. Before applying the composition in any way, all the decayed or dead wood must be cut from the wounded part, and it must then be smoothed with a sharp knife or instrument of some kind. This compound is of a soft and healing nature, and possesses an absorbent and adhesive quality, and will resist any bad effects from frosts, rains, hot suns and drying winds, and whenever it shall be properly applied, it will be productive of all the advantages that can be derived from restoring as well as preserving vigor and fertility in all kinds of fruit trees, as also, from preventing decay and promoting health in every other species of trees.

The Canker is a disease incident to trees, which occasions the bark to grow rough and scabby, and turns the wood affected to a rusty brown colour. This, if no remedy is applied, will kill the tree.

Apple trees are very liable to be infected with the canker from injudicious pruning, from ladders, in brushing and rubbing the bark off, in gathering fruit, from the breaking of boughs, and various other causes, and then leaving the wounds exposed, without applying the composition immediately. Great care should also be taken with such trees as are trained, that nails be not driven so as to do injury, that the shreds be not too light, which often causes a swelling in the shoot, and very often produces a canker.

Careless people frequently leave the dead shoots on trees through the summer, which will infallibly bring on the canker. They should be cut off as soon in the spring as it can be ascertained for certainty how far the disease has advanced by the rising of the sap. I would advise its being taken off two or three buds below the apparent diseased part, so that nothing remain but sound white wood, when apply the composition as before described.

When by accident or improper treatment, trees receive large wounds, and the cure is left to nature, they frequently overrun with gum and canker, which if not checked, will in a short time totally ruin them. In this case all the dead and deceased part must be carefully pared or cut off with a drawing knife, or some other convenient instrument, till no appearance of infection remains when the composition must be applied as before described.

When the trunk of the tree has become hollow cut the loose rotten part clean out till you come to the sound live wood, then apply the composition in a liquid state, with a brush wherever the dead wood or cankered bark has been cut off after which sift on the powder of wood ashes and burnt bones, as before mentioned. If the foregoing directions be carefully followed, the canker will be completely eradicated and the hollow trunks in time, be filled up with sound wood.

It is much to be regretted, that such multitudes of fruit trees all over our country, are in such a mutilated unfruitful state. After gentlemen have purchased young trees from nurseries, and planted them in their gardens and orchards, they are too apt to think that every thing necessary is done, when in fact there is a great deal yet to do.

In packing and bringing from the nursery, the stems and branches are very frequently broken and bruised; in that case, the injured part of the bark and wood must be carefully cut out, and the composition and powder applied. If this is neglected the canker will follow, to the great injury if not the death of the trees. In all parts of our country, we may see vast numbers so affected with this disease as not to produce fruit enough in twelve or fourteen years to pay half the expense attending them; whereas, if they were to be managed according to the foregoing directions, they would more than pay all the expence in three or four years. If the injured and diseased parts be not cut out at a very early period, the tree will not thrive but become cankery and stunted, and cannot be recovered afterwards without a great deal of labor and trouble, whereas, if the directions here given be early attended to the trees will flourish, and bear large crops of fine well flavoured fruit.

The heading of trees the first year after being transplanted from the nursery, is practised by some with great success. So likewise is washing them with a decoction of fresh cow dung, soap suds and urine, in the morning of a clear summer day.

It should be remembered, that all fruit trees love a fine rich mellow loam, and thrive much better in it than in any other soil.

I contemplate giving in my next number, some further observations on some other diseases to which fruit trees are very liable.

PENN FARMER.

Republican Star,

AND

General Advertiser.

EASTON:

Tuesday Morning, April 6.

Agricultural

AND HIGHLY IMPORTANT.

We believe we perform a valuable service to our Fellows Citizens in publishing the following papers; and we chearfully comply with the desire of the committee in requesting the Editors of Newspapers in every part of the State to insert them in their respective Gazettes.

To the Farmers of the State of Maryland.

Friends and Fellow Citizens,

AT a meeting of the Maryland Agricultural Society at Easton, in January last, the adequacy of its Constitution to accomplish the important objects proposed by it was questioned by many of its Members. They were apprehensive that its operations would be too much confined to the neighborhoods of its Sessions, and that a very considerable number of those who are deeply interested in the profitable cultivation of the soil, would be excluded from those demonstrations which are necessary to remove prejudice, and to convince the judgment. They thought that to give an extensive effect to those systems & improvements which the present condition of Agriculture obviously appears to require, it was essential to bring them nearer to your farms, and to afford an opportunity to every Landholder to partake in the promotion as well as in the knowledge of every measure by which her interests might be advanced. They believed that by associating yourselves in your own Counties and comparing the results of your Experience and observations, you would be enabled to communicate important Information to the General Society, and that, receiving by its organs the testimony of useful Experiments and discoveries, you might deliberate upon them and apply them to your mutual advantage: And they concluded that in this manner a convenient correspondence and unity of action beneficial to all might be conveyed to every quarter of the state. The utility therefore of establishing auxiliary Societies in the respective counties was proposed as a subject fit to be considered; and a committee was appointed to reflect upon it; & if they should think it an advisable measure, they were authorized to propose corresponding alterations in the constitution of the General Society, and also such a plan for the formation of County-Societies as should be deemed proper to be recommended to your attention.

This committee accordingly took the subject referred to them into their serious consideration; and at a meeting of the General Society held at Easton on the ninth day of March instant, a Report was presented by the committee, declaring their opinion in favour of County-Societies & of the usefulness of uniting their efforts with those of the General Society, and proposing for this purpose several amendments to its constitution, and accompanying these with a form of association which they considered proper to be recommended to the citizens of the respective counties of the state. This Report was read and discussed; and has obtained the sanction of the Members who were present at the meeting; but in consideration of the material changes which it proposes to effect in the construction of the General Society as originally established, it was thought respectful to defer the ultimate decision upon it until the meeting at Baltimore on the first Wednesday of June: And to enable, not only the Members of the Society, but the Farmers of the several counties, to examine the nature of the scheme, and to form their judgment deliberately upon it, a Committee was appointed to cause the Report to be published and disseminated, and to call the attention of that portion of the people, whom it particularly concerns, to its provisions by a suitable address.

In performing this office it cannot be necessary to inform you that the state of Agriculture among us is in general extremely defective: Every owner, every tenant, is convinced that by a different system and by better culture his lands would be more productive and his labour more successful, and consequently that his welfare and contentment would be enhanced in a higher degree. But it is of great importance to convince you that means are believed to exist, by which your fields may be fertilized and rendered profitable, and by which therefore the value of your estates and the comforts of your lives may be greatly increased; and that these means in a greater or smaller proportion, are in your own power, though two little known. The thing desired is—to ascertain where these means are deposited, and to understand in what manner to apply them. COMMUNICATION with each other has frequently contributed to the discovery of valuable facts, and afforded to many hearers the serviceable experience of a few ingenious men: and new ideas received from a single individual will often excite reflections which may lead to useful inventions. Communications, even in a transient manner and in occasional interviews, have sometimes been the cause of fortunate experiments and beneficial changes: But ASSOCIATIONS professedly formed for the advancement of any Science must necessarily yield much greater and more permanent effects; and if that Science be one in the promotion of which every Member will believe the best of his interests and the sources of his independence to be profoundly involved, he will feel himself drawn to it by the strongest considerations. The indulgence of curiosity, the desire of distinction, and the gratification of meeting his associates upon equal terms, though these are all commendable inducements, will be the weakest motives for his attention: The increase of his wealth, the greater ability of educating his children, the comforts and advancement of his family, and, if that science concern the improvement of his country, the sentiment of Patriotism, will inspire him with ardour; and the resources of his mind, and the exertions of his labour, will all be employed in perfecting the objects of the association. Agriculture is undoubtedly that science: Though it is a common profession, little study appears to be afforded to it; and yet there is none which merits more. Skill in this pursuit may, by slow but sure degrees convert a barren field into a fertile plain, and still more augment the value of the finest plantations. No science spreads her blessings with more liberal hands: He who cultivates the soil with knowledge and understanding reaps it is true the first advantages of agriculture: But he is not the only individual who enjoys them: They are extended to the uses of the whole community. She supplies the inhabitants with food and raiment: She satisfies all their necessities and administers to all their luxuries: Commerce, Manufactures, all arts and trades, all callings and professions, are dependent upon her productions: The body of the people are interested in supporting her cause, for they are all partakers of her bounties.

You, Fellow Citizens, whom we address, are more especially engaged in this support; and we cannot doubt your willingness to adopt any expedient which may tend to amplify these important results. It is believed that the formation of societies in your respective counties will bring forth the most favorable consequences among yourselves; and that by mutually communicating, and receiving, the fruits of your experience, and the improvements of your systems, through the medium of a General Society composed of members from among you all, the advantages which may flow from the union of talents and exertions will be realized in every district of the country. It is under this expectation that the amendments to the present constitution of the General Society have been proposed, & the plan of a government for an Agricultural Society in the respective counties recommended. They are published with this address, and submitted to your examination. If approved of they cannot be carried into operation at too early a period: The spirit of Agriculture has too long languished: Let it be revived and fairly encouraged: It will stimulate the industry and faculties of every individual and ameliorate his situation in life. It will multiply the objects of labour and afford beneficial employment to many who are losing the inducements to remain with us: It will improve and adorn the country and increase its population; and by these united effects the wealth and character of the state will entitle her to an agreeable comparison with her sisters.

NS. HAMMOND,
EDW'D. LLOYD,
TENCH TILGHMAN,
ROBERT MOORE,
EDW'D. N. HAMBLETON,
} Committee.

Easton, 30th March, 1819.

In order to make the amendments intelligible to those who have not the constitution in their possession, it has been thought adviseable to embody them with that instrument, and to exhibit the whole together: and to distinguish them, the amendments are printed in *Italicks*.

ARTICLES OF ASSOCIATION OF THE MARYLAND AGRICULTURAL SOCIETY.

WE, the subscribers, do hereby agree to associate ourselves under the style and title of "THE MARYLAND AGRICULTURAL SOCIETY."

ART. I. The object of this Association is the promotion of Agriculture and Rural Economy.

ART. II. The officers of this Society shall consist of a President, a Vice-President, a Secretary and an Assistant Secretary, a Treasurer and an Assistant Treasurer, *two Boards of Agriculture*, and of such other officers as the by-laws of the Society shall from time to time direct. All officers, *and the Boards of Agriculture*, shall be chosen by ballot annually, at the meeting held in the month of June. The assistant Secretary and the assistant Treasurer shall reside on the Eastern Shore of Maryland.

ART. III. The duty of the President shall be to preside at all meetings, to direct such correspondence as may be necessary to superintend the affairs of the Society, and to make such communications as, from time to time, may be deemed useful.

ART. IV. The Vice-President, in case of the absence of the President, shall fulfil his duties; and, in case of absence, death, or resignation, of any officer, the Society shall have power to appoint, in his place, a member to act until the appearance of such absent officer, or, in case of death or resignation, until another officer shall be duly elected.

ART. V. *A Board of Agriculture consisting of twelve skilful and intelligent farmers shall be established on each shore: The Western Shore Board shall hold its meetings in Baltimore, and the Eastern Shore Board in Easton, in quarterly terms, and as much oftener as occasions may require; at the time of their Election a President for each Board shall be selected by this Society out of their number. The respective Boards of Agriculture shall immediately after their appointment proceed to organize themselves; and each Board on its own shore, or the majority of its members*, shall take charge of all the property and articles of the Society, books and papers of the other departments excepted. And it shall be their duty to take the most efficient measures for collecting and distributing the best samples of all the useful grains, roots and seeds; for collecting all native fossils, marls, earth or substances proper for manure; for causing the same to be analysed, and report the results to the Society; for procuring experiments to be made, by careful Agriculturists, of all such fossils, marls, earth, or substances; for collecting models of the best agricultural implements, and to report their properties and usefulness; to recommend to the Society, from time to time, all subjects and objects, for which premiums should be offered; to examine into the merits of all claims for premiums, and report thereon, when the Society do not think proper to appoint a special committee for that purpose; and to keep regular minutes of all their proceedings.

ART. VI. The Society shall meet alternately in the City of Baltimore and the Town of Easton,—the first Meeting shall be in Easton, on the first Wednesday in November next, and on the same day in every year thereafter; and the next meeting shall be in Baltimore, on the first Wednesday in June, in the year eighteen hundred and nineteen, and on the same day in every year thereafter.

ART. VII. *For the purpose of obtaining and combining the knowledge and experience of industrious and enterprizing Farmers, and of extending the advantages of Rural Economy to every district in the State, the Citizens of each respective County shall be invited to form an Agricultural Society therein as an auxiliary measure in promoting the useful objects of this association. And the more effectually to establish uniformity in the government, proceedings, and modes of correspondence in such Societies, and to cement their union with this body in accomplishing these objects, a form of constitution ought to be respectfully recommended to their consideration. And every association so formed shall become a Branch of this Society and entitled to elect a deputation of members thereof.*

ART. VIII. The Society shall have power—*to decide upon the merits of any Report, Essay, Experiment, Model, or Improvement, which may be communicated to them by the respective Boards of Agriculture—to award premiums for such discoveries, productions, cultivations, or other useful objects as may have been offered to the authors for the best specimens of the different kinds—to select for publication such Letters, Treatises, or other performances as shall tend to advance the Science of Agriculture—and to preserve in Volumes such observations on particular modes of culture and on such amendments in every branch of Husbandry and Rural Economy as, in consequence of successful trials, shall be considered proper to be recommended to the Agriculturists of the present time, and to those of future periods—and generally* to make such by-laws and regulations as they shall, from time to time, deem necessary for carrying into effect the objects of the institution.

ART. IX. The Society shall consist of *its own officers, of the Boards of Agriculture of the two Shores, of a deputation of three members from each of the Agricultural Societies of the respective Counties which shall associate themselves with this body in the manner recommended, and of* inhabitants of the State of Maryland, friendly to Agriculture; and provision shall be made for the election and admission of honorary members.

ART. X. Every member, on subscribing these articles of association, shall pay to the treasurer, or the assistant treasurer, two dollars: and shall, on the first Wednesday in June annually thereafter, pay two dollars so long as he may continue a member. *Provided nevertheless that no member of this Society, who shall also be a member of a County Society and shall contribute to the funds established by the constitution thereof, shall be chargeable with the payment prescribed by this article.*

ART. XI. The correspondence of the Society shall be conducted by the President, the Vice President, the Secretaries, or by either of them; and by the Chairmen and Secretaries of the county committees.

ART. XII. At a meeting of the Society, the President shall, with the members present, form a quorum.

THE FORM OF A CONSTITUTION OF A "COUNTY-SOCIETY," RECOMMENDED FOR ADOPTION TO THE FARMERS OF THE SEVERAL COUNTIES OF MARYLAND.

Whereas a number of respectable Agriculturists of this state, at a meeting held by them in the City of Baltimore on the second day of June, in the year eighteen hundred and eighteen, established a general superintending Society for the advancement of Agriculture under the style and title of the "Maryland Agricultural Society"; and the members thereof have declared their conviction that, for the purpose of obtaining & combining the knowledge and experience of industrious and enterprizing Farmers, and of extending the advantages of rural economy to every district in the state, the citizens of each respective county ought to be invited to form an Agricultural Society therein as an auxiliary and important measure in promoting the useful object they have in view: And whereas for the sake of connecting the efforts and proceedings of associations in the counties with those of the General Society, and of affording to all the benefits which either may derive from the other, a uniformity of plan in the construction, government, and modes of correspondence, of the County-Societies has been respectfully recommended:

We therefore the subscribers, approving of the views of the General Society and of the constitution which its members have formed for the government thereof, and being desirous of uniting with them and of assisting them in promoting the great interests of Husbandry, do hereby agree to associate ourselves under the style and title of "The Agricultural Society of ———— County," and to govern ourselves according to the following articles.

1. The object of this association, like that of the General Society, is the promotion of Agriculture and rural economy.

2. The Society shall consist of every individual friendly to this object who shall desire to subscribe these articles; and so soon as twenty individuals shall have subscribed them, the Society shall be considered as formed, and the members may proceed to organize themselves.

3. The Society shall meet in stated quarterly Sessions; and at their first meeting and annually thereafter, the members present shall elect by a majority of votes a President, a Treasurer, and a Secretary, and also a committee of nine members.

4. This committee, associated with the President and Secretary, shall have the general management of the affairs of the Society, and hold a correspondence with the Board of Agriculture of the Eastern (or Western) Shore upon every subject belonging to the interests of this association which they may wish to communicate, or upon which they may desire information.

5. At the general meetings of the Society the President shall receive the communications of any member, and the same shall be referred to the committee, or otherwise disposed of as the majority shall require: And he shall report, read, and explain to the Society at large such letters, papers and experiments as may have been transmitted to the committee, or as may be considered deserving of their attention.

6. Every member subscribing these articles shall contribute one dollar annually to a fund for premiums, stationary and other expenses, to be paid to the Treasurer in quarterly or annual periods at his election.

7. One fourth of this contribution shall be retained by the Treasurer for the stationary and other expenses of the Society; and the residue shall be annually or oftener remitted by him to the Treasurer or Assistant Treasurer of the Maryland Agricultural Society, to be employed under their direction in the payment of premiums and other proper objects of their expenditures. And, to enable the State Society to form a true estimate of their resources, the Secretary of this Society shall annually transmit to their Secretary or Assistant Secretary a list of all its members. Provided nevertheless, that in addition to the general premiums which may be offered to the community at large for improvements in Agriculture, one third part of this residue shall be set apart by the General Society for the encouragement of enterprizing Farmers in this county, and applied in premiums to reward their discoveries or successful experiments.

8. At their stated meeting in the Spring of every year the Society shall appoint a deputation of three skilful and intelligent Agriculturists to attend the Maryland Agricultural Society as members thereof at their respective meetings.

9. The Society shall have power to make such rules and by-laws for their government and for the management of their affairs as they shall think proper; and to add to, alter or amend the present Constitution: Provided, however, that no proposition to change or affect the 6th, 7th, and 8th articles thereof shall be adopted without the concurrence of the major part of the County Societies as well as that of the State Society.

JOHN RANDOLPH AGAIN!

We yield to the request of some of our subscribers, by publishing the following extract of a letter from Buckingham, to this city:—

Rich Enq.

"Since writing we are requested to say to you that a number of gentlemen in the lower end of Mr. *Randolph's* district had lately written to him and invited him to return to public life; to which he answered, that he will with pleasure become a candidate and attend the elections, and that he feels honored by their confidence. It is believed that there is not a man in the district who feels a disposition to oppose him, and but few who will not be pleased at his taking his seat in the next Congress.

Wye Island.

THE subscriber, wishing to sell his one half of the above tract, has fixed on the last day of April, for disposing of it, by lots, at public sale: beginning with the part contiguous to Mr. Paca's; should it not be sold, privately, before.

M. BORDLEY.

N. B. Terms will be accommodating.

march 16 7w

©Maryland State Archives, msa_sc3923_scm2841-0280.jpg