

EXHAUSTED SOILS.

How Best to Utilize the Organic Waste of the Farm.

The soil, after a few years' cultivation, needs a renewal of humus,—that is, decomposed or decomposing vegetable matter. The original supply exhausted, the once moist, loose, friable soil of the prairie becomes dry, hard, lumpy and unresponsive to the tiller's art. Such soils are often pronounced worn out. And so they are so far as exhaustion of humus,—vegetable matter,—organic matter,—is concerned, but not in the inorganic elements of vegetable growth which are the most expensive to procure and the most difficult to replace when once really exhausted. Many a field bearing the reputation of being exhausted needs only a new supply of humus to make it as productive as ever, and how best to utilize for this purpose the organic wastes of the farm is one of the important problems, not of the near future but of the very present time.

Slip-shop methods, based upon the reputed inexhaustibility of the soil, has brought grief to many an energetic tiller of the soil who used bravely or used it out of proportion with brain. Every straw stack burned, every crop of cornstalks raked and burned, every fork-full of manure allowed to go to waste, is just so much on the wrong side of nature's ledger account against the improvidence, unthrifty and unwise tillers of the soil. The bookkeeper and the cashier may forget, may make mistakes, but nature never, and she never neglects to enter a debit nor fails to make a collection therefor; and what is just as true, she never forgets nor neglects to enter up a credit and to give the creditor the benefit thereof. It is the safest savings bank in the world and the only one that never defaults. How best to secure these credits at nature's bank—that is, how best to utilize these wastes in replacing essential elements of fertility that are being removed from the soil with every crop is a problem that the successful farmer of the future must solve.

Preserving Fence Posts.

The best preservative for posts is an antiseptic solution that will destroy the fungus germs that attack the dead sap wood. Sulphate of copper and salt are valuable in this respect. The rotting of posts at the surface is hastened much by alternate wetting and drying, which is highly favorable to the growth of bacteria of decay. Charring the end of a post or the application of a coat of oil, will keep away moisture, and consequently decay, for a while. We advise soaking posts in a solution of sulphate of copper and next in a strong salt brine. Locust will outlast chestnut as posts.

In building wooden fences we follow these rules: Cut timber in August, second-growth chestnut if possible. Cut no small posts. Allow timber to season before building fence. Take off the bark. Tamp back in the post hole all the earth thrown out.—Wm. A. Cassell.

But You Don't.

There are thousands of otherwise well stocked farms scattered over the country on which little or no small fruit can be found growing. Not even a good size strawberry patch. The farmer will admit that he and his family all want them but he excuses himself by saying he can buy them cheaper than he can raise them. But we notice when the time comes not very much of it will be bought. Something will come up to prevent it and the family will do without. Raspberries, strawberries, blackberries and other small fruits are easily grown and there is little excuse for any one doing without them except the renter who moves annually. Many of this latter class can get small fruit if they will try, by picking for some large fruit grower in the vicinity on shares. If there is no small fruit on the farm, better arrange to set some out.

Shade in Pasture.

As a general rule cattle need plenty of shade in summer and they ought to have a watering place to go to as often as they choose. In clearing my ground I sometimes leave a nice tree standing out in the open field. It is true the ground does not produce so well close to the tree, but I think the farmer makes it all back in milk and butter. If a cow is left in an open field where there is no shade she will get so hot that her milk won't taste as good as if she had a nice shady place to lay down and rest in. I notice some of my neighbor's fields have no shade trees in them. They don't pasture them very much. They always pasture the fields that have the shade trees.

Two or three good shade trees in a twelve or fifteen-acre field is sufficient to shade ten or twelve head of cattle. Cattle delight to run through the brush, especially when the horse-fly season is on. The cows love to walk along through the brush and pick off a leaf now and then to mix with the grass they get. One of our pasture fields has a thicket of bushes in one corner of it. I notice whenever I put the cows in there, they go to the bushes the first place. They stay there the bigger part of the time. It seemed that the cows thrived better while they were pasturing in that field.—Nick Reising.

The essentials to successful tree planting are common sense, industry, perseverance and faith.

A Great Actor's Great Career.

London "Outlook."

From a merchant's office stool in Newgate street to the unchallenged headship of the English-speaking stage is an epitome of the career of John Henry Brodribb, now Sir Henry Irving, Knight, LL.D., whose appearance this week on the boards of Drury Lane in Sardou's "Dante" is the event of the London dramatic season. But how much between! The early struggles—bordering at times on privation—of this stage-struck Somerset lad; his hard but invaluable nine years' apprenticeship in the provinces in the old "circuit" days before the actor's trade had become a profession; his triumph in "Hunted Down," which attracted the notice of Boucicault and led to his first London engagement; his epoch-making tenure of the Lyceum; his tours in the United States—all these are milestones in Sir Henry's career familiar to most playgoers. It was he who in our time was able to falsify F. B. Chatterton's dictum that "Shakespeare spells bankruptcy." In his own person, by his magnetic influence, Irving has been to the younger generation of actors, and actresses, too, a stimulating and vivifying force; a worthy custodian of the traditions of Garrick, the Kembles, the Keans, and Macready. Such passages in his life as the presidency of a lord chief justice at a banquet in his honor, his delivery of the Rede lecture at Cambridge prior to receiving his degree, his triumphant appearance as Shylock before a German audience at the Berliner Theater, and his "command" performances on several occasions before royalty are added laurels to the brow of this great actor.

To mention Sir Henry Irving's name without linking with it that of his colleague, Ellen Terry, is impossible. The two have been so closely united in their art, almost without a break, for twenty-four years, that old playgoers resent, somewhat in the sense of a private grievance, the presence of the actress in management at the Imperial while the actor is at Drury Lane. But these things seem to be among the inevitables of the dramatic world. All the same, when one conjures back sweet memories of Miss Terry playing Ophelia to Sir Henry Irving's Hamlet, Marguerite to his Mephistopheles, and Madame Sans-Gene to his Napoleon, it is hard to stifle the feeling that, this combination ended, some of the fragrance has departed from our stage. People went, of course, to the Lyceum "to see Irving," but in so speaking they never forgot that they would see Ellen Terry as well.

The professional association of Miss Terry with "Mr." Irving dates back, indeed, further than the Lyceum days, for these two young people were playing together in "The Taming of the Shrew" at the old Queen's Theater under the management of the Wigans. Nor, though Miss Terry is out of the cast of "Dante," is she a novice in Sardou's plays, for was she not, just three years ago, the leading lady in "Robespierre," which Sardou wrote specially for the Lyceum company? An unkind fate at times has decreed that she should enact the tragedy-queen; but, as we all know, her truest successes have been in that species of comedy where gentle raillery and the display of arch perversity and merry mischief divulge her womanhood. Theater-goers of to-day are often unaware that Sir Henry Irving, too, possesses the gift of comedy to a degree which—in the former judgment of some—overshadows the tragic and realistic. Warrant for that view is to be found in his impersonation of such characters as Digby Grant in "Two Roses," Jingle, and Jeremy Diddler. But his career was fixed in what is usually called the "higher" branch of his art when he enlisted under Bateman's banner at the Lyceum, where his Burgomaster in "The Bells" took London by storm some thirty years ago, and to whose management he ultimately succeeded.

Labouchere on Sir Hector MacDonald.

London "Truth."

In poetry and the drama tragedy is supposed to have a bracing and ennobling effect on the emotions. The tragedies of real life are always painful, frequently sordid, and never anything better. Oedipus himself, off the stage, would only furnish the materials for a coroner's inquest and a sensational line on the bills of the evening papers. So it is with the tragedy that has ended the career of Sir Hector MacDonald; and now that the papers recording the event are out of print, there is no purpose to be gained by dwelling on such a catastrophe. It is said that a disinterested enthusiast has declared his intention of spending £210,000 to clear the unhappy man's reputation. If money could do it, one would regard it as money well spent. A man told me the other day that he had spoken with the general's servant, who would stake his life that there was no foundation for the charges. As no man is a hero to his valet, this would be testimony of some weight. But when a man has, in effect, pleaded guilty by his own act, how can any such testimony affect the verdict? A doctor, taking a different line of defence, told me that he should throw the suicide and the charges together into the scale, and treat them both as evidence of physical degeneration, due probably to sunstroke or some such cause. This may be charity borrowing the voice of science, but who would not be charitable in judging a brave man and a good soldier, who has served his country so well?

A Good Example.

Little Alice always said her prayers regularly before going to bed. One night, however, as she rested her head on the pillow, she remarked, in a questioning way: "Mamma, my prayers are so much longer than the one nurse says in the morning. Can't I say hers when I'm tired?" "Does the nurse pray in the morning?" asked the mother, with a puzzled look. "Yes," said Alice, sweetly. "She says, 'Lord, have I got to get up?'"

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O. W. BURGON, R. K.

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Trent Valley Lodge No. 71. Meet in the Orange hall on Francis street west on the first and third Mondays in each month.
ALEX. MCGEE, N. G.
J. T. THOMPSON JR., Sec.

O. L. No. 996. MEET IN THE ORANGE
hall on Francis St. West on the second Tuesday in every month.
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J. F. VARGON, Rec.-S.

INDEPENDENT ORDER OF FORESTERS.
Court Phoenix No. 182. Meet on the last Monday of each month, in the True Blue hall in McArthur's Block.
D. GOULD, Chief Ranger.
THOS. AUSTIN, R. S.

CANADIAN ORDER OF FORESTERS,
Fenelon Falls Lodge No. 626. Meets in the Orange Hall on Francis street west on the first Thursdays of each month.
F. SMITHERAM, Chief Ranger,
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CANADIAN HOME CIRCLES. FENE
LON Falls Circle No. 127, meets in the True Blue hall in McArthur's Block the first Wednesday in every month.
P. C. BURGESS, Leader.
R. B. SYLVESTER, Secretary.

A. F. AND A. M., G. R. C. THE SPRY
Lodge No. 406. Meets on the first Wednesday of each month, on or before the full of the moon, in the lodge room in Cunningham's Block.
F. A. MCDIARMID, W. M.
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CHURCHES.

BAPTIST CHURCH—QUEEN ST. REV.
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METHODIST CHURCH—COLBORNE
Street—Rev. John Garbutt, Pastor. Sunday service at 10.30 a. m. and 7 p. m. Sabbath School at 2.30 p. m. Epworth League of Christian Endeavor, Tuesday evening at 8 o'clock. Prayer meeting on Thursday evening at 7.30.

ST. ANDREW'S CHURCH—COLBORNE
Street—Rev. R. C. H. Sinclair, Pastor. Services every Sunday at 10.30 a. m. and 7 p. m. Sunday School every Sunday at 2.30 p. m. Christian Endeavor meeting every Tuesday at 8 p. m. Prayer meeting every Thursday at 7.30 p. m.

SALVATION ARMY—BARRACKS ON
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ST. ALOYSIUS R. C. CHURCH—LOUISA
Street—Rev. Father O'Leary, Pastor. Services every alternate Sunday at 10.30 a. m. Sunday School every Sunday at 2 p. m.

ST. JAMES'S CHURCH—BOND STREET
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MISCELLANEOUS.

PUBLIC LIBRARY—MRS. M. E. CALDER
Librarian. Reading Room open daily Sunday excepted, from 10 o'clock a. m. till 10 o'clock p. m. Books exchanged on Tuesdays, Thursdays and Saturdays from 2 p. m. to 4 p. m., and in the evening from 7 to 9.

POST-OFFICE—F. J. KERR, POSTMAS-
ter. Open daily, Sundays excepted from 7.30 a. m. to 7 p. m. Mail going south closes at 7.35 a. m. Mail going north closes at 11.25 a. m. Letters for registration must be posted half an hour previous to the time for closing the mails.

NEWSPAPER LAW.

1. A postmaster is required to give notice by letter (returning the paper does not answer the law), when a subscriber does not take his paper out of the office and state the reasons for its not being taken. Any neglect to do so makes the postmaster responsible to the publisher for payment.
2. If any person orders his paper discontinued he must pay all arrears, or the publisher may continue to send it until payment is made, and collect the whole amount, whether it is taken from the office or not. There can be no legal discontinuance until the payment is made.
3. Any person who takes a paper from the post-office, whether directed to his name or another, or whether he has subscribed or not, is responsible for the pay.
4. If a subscriber orders his paper to be stopped at a certain time, and the publisher continues to send, the subscriber is bound to pay for it if he takes it out of the post-office. This proceeds upon the ground that a man must pay for what he uses.
5. The courts have decided that refusing to take newspapers and periodicals from the post-office, or removing and leaving them uncalled for, is *prima facie* evidence of intentional fraud.