

The Irish Farmers' Journal,

And Weekly



Intelligencer.

UNDER THE PATRONAGE OF THE RIGHT HONORABLE AND HONORABLE THE DUBLIN SOCIETY;
AND THE FARMING SOCIETY OF IRELAND.

VOL. IV.—No. IV.

SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 23, 1815.

Price 6½d

Original Correspondence.

TO THE

EDITOR OF THE IRISH FARMERS' JOURNAL.

SIR,
Edinburgh, 6th September, 1815.
WITH Mr. Young's permission, I send his very excellent letter on the culture of florin, for publication in the Farmers' Journal. Living in his neighbourhood, I have been an eye-witness to the material facts.
I am, &c. A SUBSCRIBER.

MR. YOUNG TO GEORGE RENNIE, ESQ.

DEAR SIR,
Harrow, 19th August, 1815.
I was sorry for being under the necessity of leaving Workington, the day before the annual meeting closed, and equally so at being disappointed of the pleasure of cultivating your acquaintance, by accompanying Mr. Curwen and you to Windermere—I have just now received a letter from him, in which he says, "I have passed a few days in the Lothians, delighted with the crops—Mr. Rennie's turnips greatly surpass mine, with not half the manure—whilst I envy, I respect his talents and success."

The short conversation which I had with you at Workington Hall, on the cultivation of florin grass, induces me to trouble you with a detail, which, though it does not much concern you personally, may interest your friends who possess extensive tracts of moss and moor, at considerable height above the level of the sea.

Some years ago, I was tempted to cultivate the *agrostis stolonifera*, under directions from Dr. Richardson, to whom I was enabled to shew betwixt two and three acres of it, in a very promising state, when he visited Scotland in spring, 1812. I had planted this grass on tolerable good dry land, consuming the produce for two years, as green food for horses and cattle—in its third year I mowed it for hay, in the end of October—the produce was considerable, but it never dried properly, and I was not satisfied either with the crop, or the appearance of the field after its second year—I had been careful to keep it clean, but did not encourage the growth by top-dressings or any kind of manure, and I should have abandoned all attempts at cultivating this grass, if Dr. Richardson had not persuaded me to make a trial of raising it on a piece of very indifferent land of nearly twenty acres, which he selected himself, the upper part exceeding thirteen acres, being a dry heathy moor, the under part six and a half acres of very indifferent moss, not worth a shilling yearly, per acre.

I began paring and burning the upper part of this field in the common way, but the ashes produced by the operation, were by no means abundant, and the lower or mossy part of the field I found, could not be treated in the same way with any advantage—resolving to confine my florin plantation to the lower part, I got the whole very carefully trenched a full spade deep, with a proper inclination towards a large drain, and for the purpose of covering the surface, I cut down a small knoll of clayey gravel in the immediate neighbourhood, which I mixed with ashes from the upper part of the field, and 78 bolls of unslacked lime, spreading the whole on the surface of the trenched moss, upon which, in spring and summer, 1814, I planted the florin strings in the usual way, and it was rolled, and occasionally weeded in the course of the summer.

In the beginning of November last, I began to cut the crop of grass, and gave it in abundance to my cattle and horses, to whom it afforded a liberal supply of green food till the end of February last, with a few short interruptions from frost and snow. I cannot tell you what quantity of grass was produced on each acre, but I can assert with confidence, that it was at least equal to a heavy crop of clover and rye-grass.

In the beginning of July last, the crop of florin on the above six and a half acres, had again become so luxuriant, that I was induced, contrary to all the instructions of my preceptor Dr. Richardson, to mow it for a crop of hay, at the same time with the ordinary clover and rye-grass crops of the country, and it has been treated exactly in the same way, producing hay, as I think, of a superior

quality, perfectly dry, the same bulk of florin hay when weighed against clover and rye-grass hay in perfect good order, being uniformly a fifth less in weight.

Of the whole six acres and a half, I only made four acres into hay, using the remainder as I am now doing, for green food. The produce of the four acres before it was put up in a stack, was carefully weighed by John Gay, tenant in Broadshaw, an intelligent farmer, who attests its weight to be 1820 stones, or 455 stones per acre. The whole operations on the field being performed at his sight, I was desirous that he should also weigh the produce, and see the stack put up, as he was formerly, when my overseer, a great unbeliever in the virtues of this grass, though the success of my experiment I believe has now converted him to the florin faith.

	£	s.	d.
I paid for trenching the six and a half acres with some small drains, ...	40	0	0
For 78 bolls of lime and leading, at 3s. 5d. per, ...	11	6	6
Fifty-two cart-loads of ashes, taken from the upper part of the field, at 1s. per, ...	2	12	0
Mixing and laying on the compound, ...	11	1	6
Planting, rolling, and weeding, ...	7	16	0
Total Expense, ...	£72	16	0

being at the rate of £11 4s. per acre.

The expense of trenching was considerably more than it ought to have been, but it was done with particular care and attention.

I intended originally to have given much more lime, but I was persuaded by a gentleman, more skilled in such matters than I pretend to be, that the above quantity, with the ashes and clay, was quite sufficient.

The first cutting of the grass last winter and the beginning of spring, I think may moderately be estimated at £6 per acre, in whole, ...	39	0	0
The second cutting of two and a half acres this summer for green food, at the same rate, amounts to ...	15	0	0
And 1820 stones of hay on the remaining four acres, at only 5d. per stone, ...	38	8	4
	£92	8	4

subject to the ordinary expense of cutting, thinning, and leading home the produce, and I can assure you that there is no difficulty whatever in mowing the grass with a scythe.

Thus it is clearly demonstrated that the first two cuttings of this crop within the year, will do more than defray the expense, and if a perpetual meadow has been thereby created out of a moss, it cannot be denied that this grass possesses extraordinary virtues, and may be cultivated with advantage on the very worst soils. Indeed I have no doubt from the present appearance of the field since the hay was taken off, that by the end of October next, I may begin to cut a third crop of grass from it, little inferior to those which have already been taken.

TAKING DRILLED POTATOES OUT OF THE GROUND.

TO THE

EDITOR OF THE IRISH FARMERS' JOURNAL.

SIR,
A subscriber to the Irish Farmers' Journal, (on the 9th inst.) having expressed a wish to be instructed in "the most approved method of taking drilled potatoes out of the ground," and your correspondent probably not having seen a treatise on the culture of potatoes, by the late Thomas King, of Kingston, Esq. published about twenty-five years, (some hundred copies of which were dispersed by the Dublin Society) I beg leave to send you his mode of taking out potatoes, with the result of an experiment tried by me, which I hope will be satisfactory and advantageous to the Irish farmers.

M. King says:—"After a great variety of experiments to take out potatoes, the best method I have found (and I have tried many) is that which follows:—

"As much of the ends of the drills must be dug in the common way with the spade, as will give room to a plough

"and pair of horses, yoked in the common manner, to return, leaving men and boys between the plough and drills—two or three yards will be sufficient, but the ends of the drills should be brought even, that the plough going across them may take an equal portion of each drill. Six men placed at equal distances, each having a boy or girl to attend with a basket, will be sufficient to keep a plough constantly going. The potatoe-tops should be pulled up, gathered, and carried off before the plough begins. Let the plough crossing the ends of the drills, cut off a portion, as much as is turned in common ploughing. The men with three pronged forks throw the part cut off clear from the unploughed part, pulverize the soil, and cast out the potatoes for the pickers, who are to carry them off to the carts. The plough having made one cut, returns empty behind the men, very expeditiously, and enters upon another cut, just at the time the first man has his ground cleared, and so round and round, until the whole is finished, by which means these six men are kept constantly busy, and with the plough will do double the work which could be accomplished any other way, beside the advantages of taking the potatoes out without cut or bruise, or leaving none behind, and mixing the manure with the soil, most effectually."

So far Mr. King,
Last season I had an acre of potatoes—they were not productive although of excellent quality. I followed the above plan (which I always do) of taking them out. The expense as under:—

	£	s.	d.
To a plough, pair of horses and driver, two days, at 8s. 8d. ...	0	17	4
To eight men at 2s. per, ...	0	16	0
To one man preparing pits, ...	0	2	0
To 14 women, at 10d. per, ...	0	11	8
	£2	7	0

Produce, 66 barrels of potatoes, taken out, gathered, brought off the ground, pitted safely, and completely secured—about 8½d. per barrel, expense.

In the usual way of taking out drilled potatoes, I believe the expense (completing as above) would be at least 1s. 6d. per barrel.

I am, yours, &c.

ANOTHER SUBSCRIBER.

TO THE

EDITOR OF THE IRISH FARMERS' JOURNAL.

SIR,
Seeing in your paper of the 9th instant, an account of the Workington Agricultural Meeting, and the toast given by Mr. Fortescue there, viz. "Burning without fire" the farmers in this country wish for a particular description of the mode by which "the surface soil and clay can be burned by lime without fire," as some of them were preparing to burn clay on their mountains, from the directions formerly given in the Farmers' Journal. Your speedy compliance with this request, will oblige several

COUNTY OF WICKLOW FARMERS.

TO THE COMMITTEE OF

NATURAL PHILOSOPHY AT LEINSTER-HOUSE.

GENTLEMEN,
As the public must naturally look forward to you as the future arbiters on the subject of wheel-carriages, I take the liberty of addressing to you, a few observations in reply to Mr. Richardson's last letter. To Mr. Richardson, I have to offer my very sincere acknowledgments, for the far too obliging manner in which he has been pleased to speak of my letter. If any service to the public has been rendered thereby, my object has been gained.

Mr. Richardson wishes to be informed if any perfect theory has been published on the subject of springs. I do not know that there has, nor am I aware that the subject admits of a very abstruse investigation. If Mr. Richardson has any new light to throw upon it, it will afford me very great pleasure. In the mean time allow

Fairs in Ireland.

FROM THE 25TH TO THE 30TH SEPTEMBER, INCLUSIVE.

Monday, 25—Ardnaglas, Arklow, Athleague, Ball, Ballinaspide, Ballytogan, Ballybuck, Beale, Castlecomer, Cavan town, Cluggin, Drimoleague, Drummammon, Glanworth, Holycross, Johnston's-bridge Kilbalinierin, Leighlin-bridge, Lisnore, Mullinahown, Newtown, Stonehall, Trans-town.

Tuesday, 26—Anglesburro, Burrasakane, Claremore, Doonmore, Dromore, Nedeen, Newtownbarry, Tashiny.

Wednesday 27—Benburbe, Carrimacross, Clare, Coolboy, Leekcarrow, Newbirmingham, Rockcorry.

Thursday, 28—Camolin, Clones, Kilishandra, Kilmichael, Lurganbuy, Rockfield, Saintfield, Seskinne, Tedounet.

Friday, 29—Aghygaults, Annagrove, Aughagower, Ballinaghen, Ballinaghy, Ballinlough, Ballinscanlan, Ballycon-ge, Ballyhack, Ballymakody, Ballytrain, Birchgrove, Car-ricmore, Cappagh, Castledermot, Castlelyons, Castletown-lands, Castletownroche, Cloone, Clonmallon, Cooldorkey, Dromore, Duhallow, Fiddown, Forkhill, Kanturk, Kilcock, Kilkenny, Kildangan, Killashee, Killyleagh, Killucan, Kil-lyordan, Kilmore, Kintee, Louisburgh, Mountaincastle, Mountbellew, Mountbennish, Mountrath, Rathmolin, Rush, Shanon, Tinnehinch, Turloughmore.

Saturday 30—Ballyclerihan, Harrow, Newbliss.

Dublin Markets.

SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 23, 1815.

SPITALFIELDS MARKET, FRANCIS-STREET.

	£	s.	d.	£	s.	d.
Butter in casks, ...	5	0	0	5	10	0
Ditto in bowls, ...	0	0	11½	0	1	2
Green Pork, ...	0	0	0	0	0	0
Bacon, ...	2	12	0	2	16	0
White Potatoes, ...	0	5	8	0	4	0
Apple Potatoes, ...	0	0	0	0	0	0
Black Potatoes, ...	0	5	4	0	5	8

PRICE OF COALS, PER TON.

Whitehaven, ...	30s. Od.	Harrington, ...	28s. 6d.
Scotch, ...	30s. Od.	Workington, ...	29s. Od.

PRICE OF MEAT.

Beef, ...	5d. to 6½d. per lb.	Pork, ...	—d. to —d. per lb.
Mutton, ...	6½d. to 7½d. per lb.	Veal, ...	6½d. to 7½d. per lb.

PRICE OF HAY AND STRAW AT SMITHFIELD.

	£	s.	d.	£	s.	d.
Hay, ...	0	5	0	0	5	6
Wheaten Straw, ...	0	1	6	0	2	0
Oaten Straw, ...	0	1	6	0	2	0

An Abstract of the Returns of the Quantities and Prices of Corn, Grain, Meal, and Flour, sold in Dublin, for the week ending September 15, 1815, allowing the following quantities to be a Barrel of each sort.

Wheat, Rye, Peas, and Beans 20st—Barley and Bere 16st—Oats 14st—and deeming 15½ stone of Flour equal to a barrel of Wheat, and 7st. of Oatmeal to a barrel of Oats.

Species.	Barrels.	Price.	Average.	Medium Price
Wheat, ...	1115	1748 17 0	1 11 5	1 14 10½
Flour, ...	6975	12347 5 0	1 15 5	1 14 10½
Bere, ...	65	35 15 0	0 11 4	0 12 0½
Barley, ...	50	32 7 0	0 12 11½	0 12 0½
Oats, ...	3541	2474 11 0	0 13 11½	0 10 11½
Oatmeal, ...	631	455 19 0	0 13 10	0 10 11½

DUBLIN MARKET NOTE FOR THE WEEK ENDING SEPTEMBER 22.

	From	To	M. Price
1315 Wheat per Bar. 20 Stone	20	0 34	0 29 4
9561 Flour, per Cwt.	7	0 30	0 0 0
19 Bere, per Bar.	12	0 0	0 0 0
50 Barley, per Bar.	12	0 15	0 13 7½
5188 Oats, per Bar.	9	0 17	6 12 5½
476 Oatmeal, per Cwt.	15	0 18	0 15 9½
0 Peas, ...	—	0	— 0
SOLD TO BAKERS ONLY.			
72 Barrels of Wheat, ...	28	0 35	0 31 9
7445 Cwt. of Flour, ...	15	0 30	0 21 9
Average Price of Wheat and Flour 58s. 4d. per Sack.			
Sales of Flour, ...	9561	1st. from 28s. Od. to 30s. Od.	
Receipts, ...	8474	2d. from 15s. Od. to 25s. Od.	
		3d. from 7s. Od. to 14s. Od.	

WEIGHT AND PRICE OF BREAD FOR THE ENSUING WEEK.

	lb. oz. dr.	s.	d.
Quarter Loaf, 4 5 8	—	0	9½
Half Quarter, 2 2 12	—	0	5

Exports

FROM DUBLIN IN THE WEEK ENDING SEPTEMBER 22.

Oxen or Cows, 801—Sheep, 1245—Swine, 1130

BUTTER.

Casks, 390—Firkins, 200.

Country Markets.

LIMERICK MARKET—SEPTEMBER 20.

Per Cwt.					Per stone.						
	s.	d.	s.	d.		s.	d.	s.	d.		
Flour, 2d	24	0	a	25	0	Oats,	0	7	a	0	8
— 3d	16	0	a	—	0	Per Cwt.					
— 4th	10	0	a	—	0	Pork, ...	24	0	a	00	0
Oatmeal	15	0	a	14	0	Butterin					
Per Stone.					Frks. 1st	114	0	a	0	0	0
Wheat, ...	1	2	a	1	5	— 2d	110	0	a	0	0
Barley, ...	0	8	a	0	9	— 3d	102	0	a	0	0

WATERFORD MARKET—SEPTEMBER 20.

Per Cwt.					Per Barrel.						
	s.	d.	s.	d.		s.	d.	s.	d.		
Oatmeal, 14	6	a	15	0	Malt,.....	54	0	a	56	0	
Per Bag.					Per Stone.						
Flour, 2d, 40	0	a	46	0	Potatoes,...	0	5	a	0	6	
— 3d, 28	0	a	36	0	Per Pound.						
— 4th, 24	0	a	26	0	Beef,	0	5	a	0	6	
Per Barrel.					Mutton	0	6	a	0	7	
Wheat, ...	26	0	a	28	0	Veal,	0	0	a	0	0
Barley, ...	11	0	a	11	6	Pork,	0	3	a	0	5½
Oats,	9	6	a	10	6	Butter, ...	1	10	a	2	2

BELFAST MARKET—SEPTEMBER 21.

Per Cwt.							
	s.	d.	s.	d.		s.	d.
Wheat ...	15	0	a	14	0	Cow hides 45	0
Barley ...	5	0	a	5	5	Ox ditto, 45	0
Oats ...	8	10	a	9	0	Per Stone.	
Oatmeal 15	0	a	15	4	Potatos	0	5
Flour, 1st 27	0	a	00	0		0	3½
— 2d 25	0	a	00	0	Per Pound.		
— 3d 15	0	a	00	0	Beef.....	0	4½
					Mutton.....	0	6
					Veal.....	0	5

NAAS MARKET—SEPTEMBER 21.

s. d.					s. d.				
Per Barrel.					Per Stone.				
Wheat ...	20	0	a	23 0	Potatoes ...	0	3	a	0 4
Barley ...	12	0	a	13 0	Per Pound.				
Bere	9	0	a	11 0	Beef	0	4	a	0 5
Oats	9	0	a	11 0	Mutton ...	0	4½	a	0 5½
Per Cwt.					Butter, ...	0	10	a	0 11
Oatmeal... 12	0	a	14	0					

DROGHEDA MARKET—SEPTEMBER 16.

Per Barrel of 20st.				Per Cwt. of 112lb.									
	s.	d.	s.		s.	d.	s.	d.					
Wheat ..	29	0	a	32	Oatmeal,	14	0	a	15	0			
Meslin. ...	22	9	a	28	Butter,	88	8	a	95	8			
Grey Peas, —	0	a	—	0	Flour, 1st	24	0	a	0	0			
Per Barrel of 16st.				—2d				20	0	a	25	0	
Barley, ...	12	a	—	0	—3d				0	0	a	0	0
Per Barrel of 20st.				Per Barrel of 21st.									
Oats,	12	9	a	15	6	Potatoes	5	10	a	7	6		

WEXFORD MARKET—SEPTEMBER 21.

Per Brel.					Per Stone.						
	s.	d.	s.	d.		s.	d.	s.	d.		
Wheat,...	28	0	a	52	0	Potatos,	0	3	a	0	0
Barley,...	8	0	a	11	0	Per Pound.					
Oats,...	9	0	a	11	0	Beef	0	3	a	0	4
Beans,...	17	0	a	18	0	Mutton,...	0	4	a	0	5
Peas,...	14	0	a	0	0	Pork	0	0	a	0	0

DUNDALK MARKET—SEPTEMBER 18.

Per Barrel.				Per Barrel.					
	s.	d.	s.	d.		s.	d.	s.	d.
Wheat,...	26	10	a	58	0	Oatmeal,...	15	0	a 16- 0
Barley....	00	0	a	00	0	Per Stone.			
Oats,.....	11	6	a	14	0	Potatoes,...	0	2½	a 0 5½

Swirey Markets.

EDINBURGH MARKET, SEPTEMBER 15.

£	s.	d.	£	s.	d.
Oatmeal 523 bolls, at			Barley and Peasemeal,		
First, per boll	1	0	0	52 bolls, at	
Second, do.	0	19	0	Barleymeal per boll	0 13 0
Third, do.	0	0	0	— per peck	0 0 11
First, per peck	0	1	4	Peasemeal per boll	0 13 0
Second, do.	0	1	5	— per peck	0 0 11

PRICE OF BUTCHER'S MEAT, &c.

	s.	d.	s.	d.		s.	d.	s.	d.	
Beef, lb.....	0	6	a	0	8 Potatos, per					
Mutton.....	0	6	a	0	8 peck 28 lb.....	6	8	a	0	0
Veal.....	0	8	a	0	9 Butter, lb.....	1	7	a	0	0
Pork.....	0	6	a	0	7 Eggs, dozen	1	0	a	0	0
Lamb, per qr.	2	6	a	4	6 Tallow st.	14	6	a	15	6
Quarter loaf	10	a	0	0	0 Hides.....	7	0	a	8	0
				</						

HADDINGTON MARKET—AUGUST 31.

Wheat.	Barley.	Oats.	Pease.	Beans.
s. d.	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.
First, 54 0	24 6	23 0	18 0	18 0
Second 52 0	22 0	21 0	16 0	16 0
Third, 50 0	20 0	19 0	14 0	14 0

English Markets.

LONDON CORN EXCHANGE.

Friday, Sept. 15 Since Monday there is little corn fresh up. Wheat has a dull sale unless fine, and the turn cheaper; in other articles there is no variation.

Monday, Sept. 18—The fresh supplies of grain to this day's market have been but middling. The present scarcity of water, which prevents many millers from grinding, causes the demand for wheat to be but small, still it was quite sufficient to support the prices of this day se'nnight. Barley and beans both continue dull at their late quotations. Oats find sale at much the same rates as last Monday.

Wheat, white,	s.	s.	Beans, Pigeon,	s.	s.
per quarter	48	to 72	new, per qr.	—	to —
— red	42	to 66	— old, ...	54	to 38
— foreign	40	to 60	— Tick, new, ...	28	to 30
Rye, ...	30	to 34	— old, ...	31	to 35
Barley, English, ...	24	to 31	Pease, boiling, ...	34	to 40
Malt, ...	60	to 70	— grey, ...	56	to 38
Oats, Feed, ...	17	to 24	Flour, fine, pr. sack	55	to 60
— Short	19	to 26	— second, ...	50	to 55
— Poland	22	to 28	— Scotch, ...	48	to 54
— Potato	24	to 30	Pollard, first, per gr.	15	to 12
Bran, ...	7	to 8	— second, ...	8	to 12

From the London Gazette of last Saturday.

Average Prices of Corn for the week ending September 9, 1815, by the Quarter of eight Winchester bushels, and of Oatmeal by the boll of 140lbs. Avoirdupois, published by Authority of Parliament.

ALL ENGLAND AND WALES.

Wheat	Rye	Barley	Oats	Beans	Pease	O. meal
s. d.	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.
65 4	59 3	32 10	26 8	56 5	38 7	52 5

LIVERPOOL MARKET.

Tuesday, Sept. 12—Considerable arrivals of English whe't, round land, (which does not appear in the annexed list) added to the previous stocks at market, have tended to another decrease in the prices of even the best samples, say from 6d. to 9d per bushel. The sales of this article from the stocks in granary were exclusively confined to the export trade, the quantity of which now amounts to about 10,000 quarters; one parcel of new, from Ireland, appeared at market, and was sold at 8s. 9d. per bushel. Flour was plentiful and dull of sale, although 2s. per sack cheaper. About 6,000 barrels of sour American, in bond, have been sold, for the French market, at about 18s. per barrel. Barley was in less request, and declined 3d. per bushel. Malt was reduced 6d. per bushel, being very dull sale. Oats were almost entirely neglected, and are quoted 1d. to 2d. per bushel lower: a few parcels of new were exhibited, and sold at about 5s. 9d. per bushel.

Wheat, per 70lbs.					s. d. s. d.						
English, ...	9	6	a	10	0	Irish,	36	0	a	38	6
Scotch, ...	7	9	a	9	9	Pease, per quarter.					
Irish,	6	6	a	8	0	Boiling, ...	40	0	a	50	0
Barley, per 60lbs.						Grey, ...	52	—	a	54	—
English, ...	4	3	a	4	9	Flour, per 280lbs.					
Scotch, ...	5	9	a	4	6	English, ...	54	0	a	56	0
Irish,	3	4	a	5	6	— Second, ...	50	0	a	51	0
Malt, per nine gal-						Irish, per					
lons, ...	9	0	a	10	0	240lbs. 36	0	a	40	0	
Oats, per 45lbs.						Oatmeal, per 240lbs.					
English, ...	2	10	a	5	0	English ...	28	0	a	30	0
Irish,	2	8	a	3	0	Scotch, ...	28	0	a	30	0
Scotch, ...	2	9	a	2	10	Irish,	25	0	a	26	0
Beans, per quarter,						Rape-seed,					
English, ...	5	38	0	a	42	perlast,	25l.	a	28l		