

in honor of Secretary Morton, of my state, which with three large horses and one man can be made to do the work which, before I learned of it, cost me the labor of two men and seven horses. Before possessing this make of plough, the land was fitted by using three horses on the regular plough and four horses on the subsoil plough following it in the same furrow.

I could talk for hours upon the importance of conserving moisture in this region, which, now that we have begun to use the alfalfa plant, will become one of the most valuable regions for agriculture in the United States. But time will not permit, and we will pass to the cutting of the hay.

Cutting and Curing the Hay.

My experience is that it should be cut as near as possible when it is in full bloom. Having so large an area, this necessitates cutting a portion of mine before it commences to bloom at all. No cutting is done in the morning until the dew is off, that the alfalfa may fall on well-warmed ground. The men are employed before that time in cultivating other crops and destroying weeds generally, using a hand-hoe when necessary. As soon as the hay is thoroughly wilted it is raked into small windrows, from which it is gathered later by buck-rakes into stacks. As a rule there are three men on the stack, four men on the buck-rakes, one man to attend the stacker, and a boy to guide the team used with the stacker. There is a large loss of leaves attending this process, and had I a small area the hay would be gathered as I was taught to cure red clover in New England, by cocking it and letting it cure in the cock, after which it was immediately hauled to the barn that it might not get wet. As it is, what hay will be necessary for the dairy cows and breeding ewes and perhaps for all of my ruminating animals will hereafter be cured in the cock, as I am certain that the additional cost of curing it that way will be more than compensated by the increased value of the hay. While there is no more valuable forage for cattle, sheep, colts or hogs than well-cured alfalfa, so also there is no hay which can receive greater damage from wetting. Because of this I will hereafter put as much of it as possible in barns and sheds. I will put the remainder in stacks, which I shall protect with stack covers, which are now manufactured for that purpose.

How to Kill Out Alfalfa.

When we wish to kill out alfalfa, that we may use the field for orcharding or other purposes, we plough it in August, using three horses to a very sharp plough with a rolling colter. About a month later we plow again in the other direction, leaving the furrows open, that we

may collect all of the moisture possible from the frosts and storms of winter.

In regard to the feeding value of alfalfa, my experience along this line has not been as exhaustive as the experiments conducted at the various state experiment stations, to some of which I will briefly refer later. There is one thing, however, which it may be well for me to tell you, particularly as it is generally understood that alfalfa makes poor horse feed, and so it does for driving horses. In July, 1894, finding myself without old hay or grain, and no corn to be had for less than sixty cents per bushel, I was compelled to depend entirely upon new alfalfa hay to feed some eighty work horses for more than thirty days, during which time they were worked unusually hard, as I was trying to subdue a swamp which was, in many places, very difficult to plough. During this time the horses were maintained in their usual condition of health and flesh, although I believe it better practice to feed some grain, in connection with the alfalfa, to all horses when hard worked. Since that time I have fed all my work horses on well-cured alfalfa, choosing for this purpose cuttings when the plant was passing out of bloom, having learned that there was more protein in alfalfa cut late.

I will relate one other experience: In April, 1895, I turned sixty hogs, some of which were brood sows, into an eight-acre piece of alfalfa and kept them there all summer without grain, during which time they increased to 120 in number. In the early fall a little corn was given them to help out the alfalfa as the number of hogs increased. It is my judgment that a little ground grain should be given to growing pigs when pastured on alfalfa, to stimulate their growth and harden them.

Feeding Alfalfa.

The subject of feeding alfalfa is so important to all who grow it that I have spared no pains to learn what others have found out along this line, and it may interest you to learn of a cattle-feeding experiment at Fort Collins, Colo., conducted in the winter of 1894-'95, by Prof. W. W. Cooke, agriculturalist at the Colorado State Experiment Station, which was very thorough in its character—in fact, practically exhaustive. In that experiment it was fed with corn costing there forty-two cents per bushel, and the results obtained in one pen gave a value of \$17.70 per ton for the alfalfa. From another pen the return was but \$8.12 per ton, yet the average for all pens was \$11.80 per ton. In connection with this test was another which will furnish food for thought to all who desire to receive the largest returns for their feed and efforts: that of feeding to animals of various ages, as follows: To four-year-

olds, \$8; to two-year-olds, \$10.50, and to yearlings \$16 per ton, showing just twice as much per ton for the alfalfa when fed to yearlings as when fed to four-year-old steers; another argument for letting the other fellow do the feeding after the animal is from eighteen months to two years old, according to its development.

At the Michigan Experiment Station, in a sheep-feeding test conducted by Prof. Herbert W. Mumford, in September, 1896, it was found that alfalfa made a return of twelve dollars per ton when fed in connection with corn at thirty cents per bushel—a better gain at less cost than was made with any other hay.

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LAWS THAT OUGHT TO BE RE-PEALED.

[Speech delivered by J. Sterling Morton before the National Association of Merchants and Travelers at the Auditorium Hotel, Chicago, Sept. 10, 1901.]

Gentlemen of the National Association of Merchants and Travelers:

Preceding its historic career the human race was unanimous in its savagery. The remote ancestors of twentieth century mankind subsisted by the chase. Each barbaric hunter depended upon his physical prowess for the protection of his life, liberty and the acquisitions of his individual efforts. The evolution from nomadic huntsmen to pastoral herdsmen seems to have been slow and toilsome, without annals—a mere blank in the youth-time of the breeds of men.

Thence was taken the upward stride towards permanentized civilization and from a merely pastoral existence, man entered upon the tillage of the soil, and finally upon agriculture in general with its concomitant branches of horticulture and viticulture. Somewhere in his mind-developing progress the natural rights of man were discovered and established, and they were primarily the right to life, the right to liberty, and the right to the earnings of the person. In the pre-legislative era each man was obliged to defend these rights for himself. Thus individual might alone protected; but in time, as the intellectual faculties of the race strengthened, it was with unanimity proclaimed that all should stand together for the defence of the rights of each. And this proclamation was the very beginning of the foundations for statute laws.

The professions of law-giving, of law-administering and of practicing law are therefore only evolutions from the primitive assertion of the natural rights of a person to life, liberty and his legitimate earning. Thus plainly it is discernible that the laws under which we live are a normal outgrowth from the assertion of our natural rights by our far-back barbaric ancestors when they began to drift towards civilization. Human rights, then, were not born of statutes nor originated by law-makers. But out of those rights as originally acknowledged have emerged all of the laws of all the nations of the civilized earth.

Those statutes that ought to be