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THE VINCENNES GAZETTE.

EDITED BY SAMUEL HILL.

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From the New England Farmer.

AN EASY WAY TO MAKE A COMPLETE HEDGE OR LIVE FENCE IN A SHORT TIME.

1 Materials for a Hedge.—The plants commonly used for a hedge, are the English White Thorn, the Purging Buck Thorn, the Newcastles Thorn, the Three Thorned Acacia, or Honey Locust, the Red Cedar, &c. But I much prefer the American, Virginian, or Washington Thorn. It seems to have no enemy. In more than half a mile of hedge, I did not find a dozen caterpillars' nests, or one plant girdled by mice during the last year.

2 Season to set a hedge.—In our climate a hedge should be set out in the Spring, before the plants begin to vegetate, and every fibre of the roots should be taken up with them, and by no means be cut off.

3 Age of the plants.—The more age the plants have, the better, as they are more hardy, have better roots, and are more likely to do well. You will rear your hedge in half the time, if you use those that are four years old and upwards, than you will if you use seedlings. London says, "Three years old is certainly the youngest that should be planted, and if they are even six or seven years old so much the better." Blake says, "the age of the quickest plants (whether of one or two years' growth) is not so material, as that of the plants should be of free growth." I set one hedge in 1816, with two years' old plants, and another in 1818, with seedlings, and they have done very well, considering my inexperience, and the awkwardness and unwillingness of my men to do any thing that their fathers and grandfathers had not previously done.

4 Sort the plants.—Let your plants be assorted, the large, the small, and the different sizes of intermediates, each by themselves. Set the large on the high, poor and gravelly land, and the small on the rich land, and in the valleys and bottoms, and those of the intermediate size on the intermediate kind of land. In this way, your hedge will grow nearly alike and be very even; but if you intermingle promiscuously large and small, the large will grow rapidly and will keep the small down, and your hedge will be uneven and full of gaps.

If you plant the large in the rich hollows, and the small on the poor knolls, one part of your hedge will be years ahead of the others. Either before or after planting, cut off the tops of the plants, about an inch from the root or yellow part, so as to leave an inch of the green bark or top with four buds or eyes.

5 Spare plants.—Select a tenth or more of your best plants, and set in your nursery in wide rows, and at a distance from each other in the rows, so that the side branches shall not interfere, that you may fill vacancies in your hedge should any occur. Mature and hoe them, so as to keep them set in a head of your hedge, so that when set in a gap, they will not be behind their neighbors.

6 Preparation of the soil.—Let your land be well prepared, a strip at least eight feet wide, deep ploughed, well harrowed, raked over, and cleared of all weeds, soil grass, and weeds; let it be as well prepared as if you were to sow garden seeds. If any part of the land is poor, harrow and rake in old and well-rotted manure that will not ferment, then plough or dig a trench through the middle, 8 or 10 inches deep, one side perpendicular, and the other with a gentle slope or angle of thirty degrees.

7 Mode of planting.—Your land and plants thus prepared, lay your plants on the inclined plane or slope, in a straight line nine inches apart (more or less) and as deep as they originally were in the nursery, making allowance for the dry dirt, that may be blown or washed away; set them so deep that all the yellow part may be completely covered; then with a hoe carefully draw on the mellow earth to cover the roots, and press and pat it down well around them. They had better be set a little deeper than a little shallower, than when in the nursery, and they will bear it, as in the nursery they were perpendicular, but in the trench sloping. It will be best not to fill the trench completely, but to leave it a little concave a-

bout the roots that the moisture may be retained, and that you may be able to draw a few inches of pulverized earth every year around the roots, to make them throw out new shoots, and thus without raising the surface so much, or making it so convex as to lose the moisture. By laying or sloping your plants, small roots strike down from the old tap roots, and you have a great number of new roots that nourish the plants, and keep them firm, and prevent them from whipping about. By cutting off the top of the plant, you will have three or four strong upright young shoots, starting from the surface of the ground, instead of a solitary old one.

8 Hoeing and Clearing.—Let your hedge be perfectly hoed and kept entirely free from grass and weeds. Care must be taken that the roots, stems, and side branches are not exposed or wounded by the hoe. A little fresh earth ought to be drawn about the roots at each hoeing, and in the autumn all the leaves should be raked away, to prevent the stems and roots from being girdled by mice.

9 Pruning.—Prune either early in the spring, about midsummer, or late in the fall, when there is no flowing of the sap. When you planted your hedge, you preserved every root, but you cut off the top, leaving but four buds, these will produce four large stems as supports. This is all the pruning or trimming the stems or upright shoots must have on any condition, till they are five or six feet in height; then you may trim them down to the height you mean to keep your hedge, but the side branches should be gently trimmed every year, leaving those longest near the ground, so as to have them broad at the bottom and tapering gradually towards the tops in the form of a pyramid, a young fir, or pitch pine.

This trimming of the side branches makes them send out more new shoots from these extremities, which by frequent trimmings will become so thick as to fill up every crevice from top to bottom in your hedge; while the upright shoots, by not being trimmed, will ascend with strength, and support the hedge.

10 Pruning Instruments.—Trimming is usually performed with a hedge bill or shears; but a knife with a short and slightly curved blade, thick in the middle, and tapering to a thin and very sharp edge on each side is preferable to trim off the side branches between the plants. For trimming the sides and cropping the top of the hedge, I have used a scythe. I cut off the heel, and punched two holes in the same end, and make a mortise in the end of a straight pole or staff, and bore two holes through the mortise, and rivet the scythe to the pole and in the same direction with the pole, and not at right angles as for mowing—I put two ribs on the pole. With this you can cut the sides up or the tops off very quick and neat. In all your cutting, cut up if you wish to benefit your hedge, cut down if you wish to ruin it.

11 Miscellaneous observations.—Slope the tops of your plants to the North, they will not be so liable to be broken down by snow, or to have their buds injured in the Spring, by alternately freezing and thawing—land that has been in culture is preferable to new or sward land.

Two or three rows of white beans or flat turnips, my be sowed on each side of your hedge, but potatoes would shade too much, and onions would poison the plants. Cattle, sheep, &c. must not trample or browse on them.

Forest or fruit trees, (except walnut and cedar) may be set in a hedge forty or fifty feet asunder, they make a beautiful appearance, but trim them up ever so high, they damage the hedge, if not by their shade, they will by their roots. If you do not trim a hedge any, it will be strong and thick at the bottom giving you beautiful white blossoms, and red berries.

12 Errors and mistakes.—In my first hedge my land was bought sward, and not well prepared, and I set my large plants that were two years old perpendicular; in my second hedge, set out two years after, my land was well prepared, and I set my yearling plants sloping, and it is ahead of the first hedge; had the treatment of both been equal, the first would have been three years ahead of the last. I did not hoe as often as I ought to have done, nor did I clear away the leaves in autumn so well as I should have done. I lost one year's growth of my hedge by planting two rows of potatoes on each side of it, the tops of which grew so luxuriantly, that they completely covered and shaded the plants.

My grand error was in cropping the tops, once, and generally twice a year, with the expectation of making the hedge thicker at the bottom, and more perfect throughout; but it had a contrary effect, by throwing out a great number of small shoots at the place cut instead of increasing the main stem and lower branches, and thickening the bottom as was expected. The other I cropped the more weak shoots came out where cut, and those below dwindled and perished, and the main stem ceased to increase. The top of the hedge became weak bushy, and top heavy, and the bottom open, weak, and destitute of branches. These I did not crop had large firm stems, and threw out large strong suckers from their roots, and have made a hedge impenetrable to an enraged horned bull. I ought not to have trimmed

the main stems after the first or second trimming, till it was six feet high.

13 Recapitulation.—Prepare your land in the best manner; use suitable plants of thrifty growth, the older the better; assort and accommodate to the different kinds of soil; preserve all the roots, but crop the tops, leaving only four buds; keep alive in your nursery; set them sloping to the north, and leave the ground a little concave about the roots; keep them clear of grass and weeds, and add a little earth to the roots at each hoeing; clear away the leaves at autumn; trim the side branches carefully, and leave the main stems to nature till they are six feet high, then crop off the tops to the height you mean to have your hedge. It will look like a wedge with the sharp end upwards, and will exhibit a most beautiful appearance.

In eight years my second hedge was sufficient fence for, or against sheep and cows. By following the above directions, a better hedge can be raised in half the time, and at an expense of less than fifty cents a rod.

THE STRUGGLE FOR PRINCIPLE.

At no period since the election of 1828, have the prospects of Mr. Clay in the west appeared so flattering as at this moment. We do not speak this on the credit of mere rumor, or as a hastily and lightly formed opinion, but as the result of careful observation, extended enquiry, and as what we know to be true. The conflicts between the friends of the American system, and the Administration in this and several other states, have been productive on both sides, of many erroneous statements. These on the part of the supporters of Mr. Clay, have not grown out of a wilful disposition to misinterpret the true state of affairs, but have derived their existence from the peculiar and unprecedented circumstances in which some of their friends saw fit to place themselves at the last elections, and from the local duplicity of many whom they supported successfully for office, and who now rank themselves with our enemies, and are receiving such rewards as did their great prototype. Our friends in many instances have been too confiding—have trusted too much to the hollow professions of men—not men, but things in the semblance of human beings, who, when they had received honors at our hands, like another grovelling animal, have turned to rend those who bestowed them. The time for such acts has happily passed—we shall have to meet of them.

The honest and high minded portion of the Jackson party, who supported the present Executive, under what they thought were pledges, to adhere to the great principles of national policy embraced in the American System—the protection of Home Industry, and the prosecution of works of internal improvements, have witnessed with anger and disappointment the violation of these pledges, and looked with contempt upon the miserable shuffling & subterfuges to which the administration has resorted, and which have been so contrary to the frank and honest course so confidently looked for. They find themselves exactly in the place where all honest men, who have minds of their own, and a pride of opinion, should find themselves—that is, they adhere to the same principles upon which they first set out, and discover the administration confronting them, and opposing them with all of its influence and all of its patronage.

They find themselves precisely as would an army in two divisions, both marching forward for the same object—the van of which under the chief general takes a distant lead. When mid-way of the march, the commander conceiving that he knows more and has greater powers than those who placed him in command, disregards instructions—orders the division under his immediate charge to wheel about—to confront, and compel the rear to do likewise. Subserviency and cowardice would prompt the rear to join in the rebellion—but patriotism and courage would dictate them to fight the rebel chief, rout him and his mutineers, and then pursue the march according to original instructions, and in furtherance of the honor and prosperity of their country. As are the patriotic rear, so are the honest and independent Jackson men—they must either prostrate their love of country, and join the rebel commander, or they must fight him in self defence—for he admits no neutrals, but will pursue all who are not as he is, with a war of extermination. They will fight him, they must fight him, and they will conquer. This is no fancy, but with us has a parallel in fact. We do know that the unprejudiced Jackson men of Kentucky and several other western states, however much they may regret the necessity, are daily leaving the ranks of their treacherous associates, and preparing to advance en masse, and confront the corrupt and subservient.

While we feel that the struggle of principle for preeminence, over corruption and cunning, will be violent and involved in uncertainty from which, until the final result is known, it cannot be extricated. While we know that it will require all of the energies, the firmness and patriotism of the original friends of the American system & the Union, to combat successfully with our organized and desperate enemy, while we are certain that our success

hangs the preservation of the American System, the best interests of the people—the prolongation of the Union, and we may add the existence of American liberty, and on our defeat their destruction—while we are conscious as the living can be of all this—and have nerved ourselves for the final conflict, it is more with feelings of contempt than anger, that we observe the pitiful means, repinings, and affected misgivings of some of our pretended political friends in other parts of the Union. If they be our friends, the friends of principle, the friends of Henry Clay, as they affect to be let them act as such, and not give advantage to our enemies by their indifference, cowardice, and dismal foreboding. If they be our foes in disguise, we say to them, "Stand forth traitors!"—unmask yourselves, that we may look at you and avoid you. It is better like the Spartans to fight with three hundred of the patriotic and devoted, than with ten thousand of the faint hearted, wavering and treacherous. We want them not.

Louisville Journal.

CONGRESS.

Washington City, Feb. 4.

In the Senate, the Vice President communicated a report from the Secretary of the Treasury showing the state of the Banks in the District of Columbia; also a memorial from the Mayor of Paris, and Lexington Turnpike Company praying an appropriation to aid in the completion of that road, and offering a free passage to a mail stage, till such time as the appropriation shall be refunded with interest. Mr. McKim, from the Committee on the Judiciary, handed in a report, on the bill from the House of Representatives, to regulate the pay of members of Congress. The report is at variance with the subjects of the bill. The resolution of Mr. Grundy, relative to the examination of witnesses, by the committee on the inquiry into the P. O. Department, gave rise to a debate which is not yet concluded, in which the resolution was supported by Mr. Grundy and Mr. Woodbury, and opposed by Mr. Clayton and Mr. Holmes. The Senate on rising adjourned till Monday.

A bill reported by Mr. Drayton, from the Committee on Military Affairs, to reduce the number of Cadets at the United States Military Academy. The bill to repeal, in part, the Act to reduce the duty on salt, was again taken up, on the question of the second reading, but the hour expired before any disposition was made of it. The bill for the relief of James Moore was read a third time and passed—Ayes 194, Noes 28. Mr. McDuffie then moved to take up the bill for the relief of Susan Decatur, which was laid on the table at the last session, and the Ayes and Noes being ordered, the motion was negatived—Ayes 85, Noes 100.—The House then went into the consideration of private bills, of which between 20 or 30 were disposed of.

Feb. 5.

In the House of Representatives, Mr. Hunt, from the Committee on Public Lands, reported a bill authorizing the State of Missouri to sell certain lands reserved for the support of schools and other public objects, which was read twice, and postponed until this day. Mr. Wickliffe, from the Committee on Public Lands, reported a bill explanatory of the act passed last year, for the benefit of the officers and soldiers of the Virginia State line during the war of the revolution. It was read twice and postponed till Wednesday. Mr. Wickliffe from the same committee, introduced a bill for the final adjustment of certain land claims in Louisiana, which was also read a first and second time, and deferred till this day. A variety of other bills and reports were presented and acted upon among the former of which was a bill reported by Mr. Everett, of Mass., from the select committee on the subject, for a grant of land to the asylum for the blind in Boston. It was read twice, and committed to a Committee of the Whole on the state of the Union, and ordered to be printed.

Mr. Johnson, of Kentucky, submitted a resolution for the purchase of 216 copies of the debates on the adoption of the Federal Constitution in 1787, and for the printing of an extra copy of the reports of the House, for the use of the members. It was, on motion of Mr. Chamberleng, referred to the Committee on the Library. The bill reported from the Committee on Manufactures, respecting the continuance of the present duties on salt, was discussed by Messrs. Williams, Spright, Sotherman, Thompson, of Georgia, Mallory, and Pettis; and ultimately, on motion of the first named gentleman laid upon the table, up on a division by yeas and nays, by a vote of 195 to 41. The bills previously ordered for engrossment, were read a third time, and passed; and the remainder of the day was devoted to the consideration of private bills.

CONGRESS—OF LADIES.—Would it not be more expedient for members of Congress, instead of taking their wives and daughters to the seat of Government to leave them at home? The balls and parties, by which the winter at Washington is enlivened, undoubtedly causes it to pass with less tediousness to those who are entrusted with the business of the nation, but carried to the present extent, they

form a serious impediment to its transaction. The rivalry of females from the different sections of the country, who thus meet on a common arena for display and parade, is carried to an extravagant—not to say ridiculous length, arraying in open hostility the dashing belle of the south with sober matrons of the North. There are bones of contention enough among the members of congress, without each taking his axe thither. If the custom still continues we see no alternative but for those on whose purses large demands must be made to carry on the warfare, to vote a special appropriation out of the public chest for that object.

GALLANTRY

Once upon a time we had the temerity to attempt the fashionable mode of getting a lady "through difficulties," and were rewarded, but not with smiles. The place, the metropolis of our state—the time, that season of the year when winter having "lingered in the lap of" April, was forcibly ejected and shed a few tears, which assumed the consistency of vulgar ice. Miss Cora Ann Amelia Jane Dorothea Scraggs was no "Peri just from the salt sea," or Persian beauty with "her heart full of passion and her eyes full of sleep"—but a clever girl who wore a black jockey, and a red morocco reticule, then the ne plus ultra of fashionables.

She was on a shopping excursion—that is, "Ma" had directed her to purchase a calico dress for Betty, the maid, and she, believing that "variety was the spice of life," procured "patterns" or "samples" of all the silks and satins to be had on one side of the street, and was about crossing to the opposite, for the same purpose we opine, when her figure poised upon the curb stone caught our eye. She was considering the difficulties which the chilly frowns of winter and the warming smiles of April had created in her path. But to speak intelligibly the streets were "sloppy," and how to cross it without assistance, she knew not. With the gallantry of a gallant knight we tendered our services, and taking the apex of her elbow between two fingers and a thumb, happily commenced the pleasing task.

Sylla, in the shape of a mud puddle, was avoided, and of Charybdis, an island of ice, we steered clear, and were on the point of safely landing our fair convey on the destined shore, when alas! and black! she unluckily placed her foot upon a piece of ice, which slipping from the pressure, caused her to slip from our fingers, and she would incontinently have left an impression of her sylph like form in the mud, had we not with all the energy of despair made a grasp at—not her elbow gently rendered—matters not where; suffice it to say the lady was not bemuddled. She protested thanks; and we, bowing our pleasure, took a libation at our old friend O'Grady's, (whom every body knows) in the belief that our hopes were in high feather; but woe to us, we soon learned that the "flowers which burst the earliest, first are doomed to wither." The lady never forgave us for having applied more than three digits to her sacred person, in preserving her from a muddy couch, and ever after raised her upper lip when we raised our beaver.

From that time forth elbows have been our aversion. We abandoned "Elbow Lane," which was a "short cut" to our place of business—shunned the theatres because the fillders could not play without wagging their elbows, and more than once have have suffered a spasmodic affection, in hearing some clamorous urchin bawl out,

"There was a cobbler lived in a spoon,
And all he wanted was elbow, elbow, elbow
room!"
[Friedtown Herald.]

Female Society.—If there is any recreation which more than all others tends to preserve the moral senses from pollution, the affections from being corrupted, the social feelings from going to decay—to make the manners and improve the heart, it is in the frequent intercourse with sensible and well educated females. I do not mean now that these advantages are to be sought for or expected in the crowded ball room, or in fashionable parties. These are too often the hotbeds where the rank weeds of dissipation shoot up in their deadly luxuriance and wither the seeds of virtue. It is rather in the exchange of thought in the hours of social intercourse that the influence of women delights, cheers, and improves. Here there is no artful no excitement to lead a false glory to her cheek, or a deceitful volubility to her tongue. I value far higher, one hour passed in the society of an intelligent, accomplished female, than all the gaudy scenes of the Theatre or Ball room—and rather stand in the shadow of such a woman by moonlight, than promenade Broadway with the most fashionable couple.—N. Y. Constellation.

Expedition of the mail.—The last mail brought us a letter from Daylesford dated October 22d, only about two months and a half in going 80 miles. Really this is the "age of reform!"—Monthmouth Enq. Feb. 18.

What reveals the show of external liberty, to those who have lost the government of themselves.