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LAWS OF THE U. STATES.
Passed at the second Session of the 27th Congress.

OFFICIAL PUBLICATION.

[PUBLIC—No. 15.]
AN ACT for the extension of the loan of eighteen hundred and forty-one, and for an addition of five millions of dollars thereto; and for allowing interest on Treasury notes due.

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled, That the time limited by the first section of the act of Congress, entitled "An act authorizing a loan not exceeding the sum of twelve millions of dollars," approved July twenty-first, eighteen hundred and forty-one, for obtaining said loan, shall be, and the same hereby extended for one year from the passage of this act, to-wit: the first day of January next.

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled, That the time limited by the first section of the act of Congress, entitled "An act authorizing a loan not exceeding the sum of twelve millions of dollars," approved July twenty-first, eighteen hundred and forty-one, for obtaining said loan, shall be, and the same hereby extended for one year from the passage of this act, to-wit: the first day of January next.

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled, That the Secretary of the Treasury be, and he hereby is authorized to dispose of the stock hereafter to be issued, or any part thereof, at his own price, but no part thereof shall be disposed of under par until the same has been advertised a reasonable time and proposals for subscription to said loan invited. And the said Secretary is hereby authorized to accept such proposals, if he deem it for the interest of the United States so to do, as shall offer the highest price for said stock or any part thereof, or to appoint an agent or agents, as provided in the third section of the act approved July twenty-first, eighteen hundred and forty-one, before recited, to negotiate the same: Provided, That no stock shall be disposed of at a lower rate than the highest price offered in said proposals.

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled, That the money arising from duties on goods, wares, and merchandise which may be imported into the United States, or so much thereof as shall be equal to the payment, from time to time, of the interest, and to the ultimate redemption of the principal of the said stock, be, and the same are hereby pledged for the payment and redemption of the stock hereafter to be issued under and by virtue of this act, and the said act of July twenty-first, eighteen hundred and forty-one, hereby amended, and so much thereof as may be necessary to pay the interest on said stock, and redeem the same when due, is hereby appropriated to that object, to be first applied by the Secretary of the Treasury to such payments and redemptions.

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled, That it shall be the duty of the Secretary of the Treasury to report to Congress, at the commencement of the next session, the amount of money borrowed under the act of the 27th of March, 1842, and of whom, and upon what terms it shall have been obtained, with an abstract or brief statement of all the proposals submitted for the same, distinguishing between those accepted and those rejected; and a detailed statement of the expense of making such loans.

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled, That all the provisions of the said act, not hereby modified or changed, shall be and remain in force, and apply to this act.

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled, That the President of the United States is hereby authorized to borrow an additional sum, not exceeding the sum of five millions of dollars, if in his opinion the exigencies of the Government shall require the same; which additional loan shall be made within the time according to the provisions of the said act, as modified by this.

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled, That all Treasury notes hereafter issued under the act entitled "An act to authorize the issuing of Treasury notes," approved the twelfth day of October, eighteen hundred and thirty-seven, and the acts subsequent thereto, and now outstanding and undecredited, or which may hereafter be issued under and by virtue of the same, shall, if due and unpaid before the fifth day of March eighteen hundred and forty-two, bear interest at the rate of six per cent. per annum from that day; and when they may become due hereafter, or may have become due since the said fifth of March, eighteen hundred and forty-two, shall bear interest from the day of their becoming due, at the rate of six per cent. per annum, until they shall be respectively redeemed: Provided, That such interest shall cease at the expiration of sixty days after the date of the expiration of the principal of the Treasury notes, and no outstanding and undecredited, or which may hereafter be issued under and by virtue of the same, and the said interest shall be payable semi-annually at the Treasury of the United States, on the first days of January and July in every year.

[PUBLIC—No. 33.]
AN ACT to regulate arrests on mesne process in the District of Columbia.

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled, That hereafter no person shall be held to bail in any civil suit in the District of Columbia, unless on affidavit filed by the plaintiff or his agent, stating in substance the nature and amount of the claim, and the parties to be bound, and that the same has been contracted by fraud or false pretences, or through a breach of trust, or that the defendant is concealing or has concealed his property in the District or elsewhere, or is about to remove the same from this District, or the place of his residence, in order to evade the payment of the debt, or that, being a resident of the District and domiciled therein, is about to abscond without paying the debt, and with a view to avoid the payment of the same, setting forth all the facts on which said allegations of fraud or breach of trust are founded, and in all cases setting forth the grounds, nature, and particulars of the claim. The sufficiency of the affidavit to hold to bail, and the amount of bail to be given, shall, upon application of the defendant, be decided by the court in term time, and by any single judge in vacation. In all cases in which the affidavit required by this act is not filed previously to issuing the writ, the defendant, upon its service,

shall not be required to give bail, but merely to sign an order for the clerk of the court to enter his appearance in the cause, which, if he refuses to do, it may then be held to bail as in other cases.

Sec. 2. And be it further enacted, That any person who shall fail to appear in the said District in term time, or to any judge thereof in vacation, for a rule to show cause why he shall not be discharged on filing a common appearance, and shall be so discharged unless the plaintiff or his agent shall file a sufficient affidavit, in conformity with the provisions of the preceding section, within a reasonable period of time to be assigned by the court or the judge to whom the application is made.

Approved, August 1, 1842.

[PUBLIC—No. 35.]

AN ACT granting to the county of Johnson, in the Territory of Iowa, the right of pre-emption to a tract of land for a seat of justice for said county, and reserving the second section of an act approved the third day of March, eighteen hundred and thirty-nine, entitled "An act making a donation of land to the Territory of Iowa for the purpose of erecting public buildings thereon."

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled, That the right of pre-emption, at the minimum price for which the public lands are sold, is hereby granted to the county of Johnson, in the Territory of Iowa, for the fractional northwest quarter, east of the river, of section number fifteen, in township seventy-nine, of range six, west of the principal meridian, as reported to the land officers at Des Moines, in said Territory, containing one hundred and seventeen acres and sixty-four one-hundredths of an acre, more or less, on the same terms and conditions expressed in the act of the twenty-sixth day of May, eighteen hundred and twenty-four, entitled "An act granting to the counties and parishes of each State and Territory of the United States in which the public lands are situated, the right of pre-emption to quarter sections of land for seats of justice within the same," which said right of pre-emption is in lieu of that to the quarter section heretofore located by the commissioners of said county, which is relinquished.

Sec. 2. And be it further enacted, That so much of the second section of an act entitled "An act making a donation of land to the Territory of Iowa, for the purpose of erecting public buildings thereon," approved the third day of March, eighteen hundred and thirty-nine, as directed the contiguous sections to the section to be selected under said act, for the purposes aforesaid, to be reserved from sale or entry until the further action of Congress thereon, be, and the same is hereby repealed: Provided, That the right of pre-emption shall not accrue to any person or persons who now are or may hereafter settle on said lands under any existing pre-emption law.

Approved, August 1, 1842.

[PUBLIC—No. 36.]

AN ACT for the benefit of the county of Holt, in the State of Missouri.

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled, That the proper authorities of the county of Holt, in the State of Missouri, be, and they hereby are, authorized to make entry, at the proper land office, within one year next after the date of this act, at the minimum price, of the west half of the south-west quarter of section number twenty-six and the east half of the southeast quarter of section number twenty-seven, in township numbered sixty, and range number thirty-eight, situated in said county of Holt, making one hundred and sixty acres, upon which the seat of justice of said county is located, in full satisfaction of the claim of said county under the provisions of the act entitled "An act granting to the counties or parishes of each State and Territory of the United States in which the public lands are situated, the right of pre-emption to quarter sections of lands for seats of justice within the same," approved twenty-sixth of May, one thousand eight hundred and twenty-four: Provided, That said lands shall not have been sold by the United States prior to the date of this act.

Approved, August 1, 1842.

[PUBLIC—No. 37.]

AN ACT to confirm the sale of a certain school section in the State of Illinois, and for other purposes.

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled, That the sale heretofore made of section number sixteen, in township number thirty-nine, north of range fourteen, east of the third principal meridian, in the State of Illinois, by and under the authority of said State, with the assent of the inhabitants of the Congressional township in which said section is situated, be, and the same is hereby confirmed: Provided, That this act shall be construed as only giving the assent of the United States to said sale, and to the patents issued by the State of Illinois to the purchasers of the same; so far as the United States are concerned in the matter.

Approved, August 1, 1842.

[PUBLIC—No. 38.]

AN ACT to constitute the ports of Stonington, Mystic river, and Pawcatuck river, a collection district.

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled, That the town of Stonington, in the county of New London, State of Connecticut, shall be a collection district, from and after the thirtieth day of June next; and that the port of Stonington aforesaid shall be, and hereby is, made a port of entry.

Sec. 2. And be it further enacted, That the district of Stonington shall comprehend all the waters, shores, bays, and harbors, from the west line of Mystic river, including the village of Portersville, and North, in the town of Groton, State of Connecticut, to the east line of Pawcatuck river, including the town of Westerly, State of Rhode Island, any thing in any former law to the contrary notwithstanding.

Sec. 3. And be it further enacted, That from and after the thirtieth day of July present, the office of the surveyor of the port of Stonington aforesaid be, and the same is hereby, abolished; and a collector for the aforesaid district shall be appointed to reside at the port of Stonington, who, in addition to his other emoluments, shall be entitled to receive the salary now allowed by law to the surveyor aforesaid, and no more; and said collector shall also perform the duties heretofore enjoined on the surveyor.

Approved, August 3, 1842.

MUSCULANEOUS.

[FOR THE MESSENGER.]
Niagara Falls.

On the 13th of August, 1840, Mrs. E. and myself left New York, our home, for Niagara Falls, in the Northern part of the State of New York. We reached there in four days, by stages, steamboats and rail roads, which carried us with great speed through one of the most beautiful, romantic, rich, and thriving countries in our land. I mean Western New York. Its waving farm productions, lofty forests, over-hanging hills, pearly streams, undulating hills and glassy lakes, all lend it a charm that none but the blind could help but admire. This part of the country seems to have been intended by the Maker of all things as a sort of reservoir or store-house for that great city, New York. The beautiful towns, villages, and country seats on our way were numberless. After we arrived at the Falls, we took lodgings at the "Cataract-house," kept by Whitney & Son; a tolerably well kept house. I did not rush down to see the Falls and their wonders immediately after our arrival, as one would see a dear friend; but waited until the next morning, so that I might view them at my leisure, and without over, or hastily undervaluing their real beauty or sublimity. Accordingly, on the morning of Wednesday, August 17, we left our lodgings, with many others, to see the great, the unsurpassed American scenery, that which she may be proud of, and even dare the universe to present a scene of equal grandeur and sublimity. For my own part, I was not overwhelmed, struck insensible, nor confounded, but filled with admiration, awe, reverence, and solemn, but unspeakable pleasure. The following inquiries pressed themselves upon me at once: Why might not this river have passed on directly on a level as above the Falls? Why this great fissure or declivity in a solid rock? Why this eternal roar of earth-shaking thunder in this secluded but now charming place? Echo answered why. Every clear morning a beautiful rainbow girls in a half moon, from the centre at the bottom of the Falls, the whole scene of foam and mist below, including the beautiful cascade shore, and a mist floats through it as the drifting snow through the beams of the sun, or a passing breeze, and ascends as the smoke of everlasting torments, "forever and ever." The mellow tints of the rainbow charm our admiration somewhere in the vicinity of the Falls, at all times.

The prettiest and most interesting sight is a sight from the "rock tower." I would not swap a night from this spot (in a temporal sense) for that in which Moses is represented by the poet when he says,
"Could I but climb where Moses stood
And view the landscape o'er,
Not Jordan's stream nor death's cold flood,
Could fright me from the shore."
Nor could any thing I have ever seen fright me from that shore, without a first and a last fond look. The numberless rainbows here only hide their silken beauties for the approach of the sun; when this rises with its gilded light, they bury themselves in the spray, and no sooner does "old Sol" hide his glory behind the western peaks than they take their usual position with apparent renewed splendor and vivacity.

While here, admiring every thing around me, and gazing intensely upon the scene before me, I saw a little humming bird dart from a crevice near me, bathe his golden wings in the tints of the rainbow, lift himself proudly above the roaring cataract, and wend his course triumphantly through the clouds of mist and dashing spray directly to the opposite shore; thus changing his habitation from one government and nation to another, across the most imposing and majestic scene in the known world, and that too in a moment's time. Whilst I sat with delight, viewing his flight, I could not but envy him his wings and adventurous little spirit; and the more so, when I sat, worm-like, upon a log on the verge of a precipice, not daring to advance a foot. I involuntarily ejaculated, "Oh had his powers proportionally appropriated to myself, with my present searching curiosity, how would I quaff the mists that incessantly rise, float and never disappear here! Incessantly they shine, O! God! how beautiful, how imposing, and how wonderful are they? And how much more so art thou—thou great Jehovah, that made them all! Man, all immortal hail—list and see the works of thy maker God! And thou, O Earth—wonder, admire, and be astonished at his "handy work." From the top of the hill, above "Biddle's Stair-case," is one of the finest views (in the morning,) that it is possible to imagine. The whole view is one of indescribable beauty. We here, inhale the morning breeze, behold the beauties of the rising sun, the water fall, the variegated rain-bows, the heaven ascending mists, the majestic river, the over-hanging rocks, the bounding billows, the leaping torrents, the craggy precipices, unfathomable depths, inscrutable wonders, the shores of our own and another country, and hear, at the same time, the ceaseless roar of this stupendous body of water, over an over-hanging precipice, which for its form, situation, height and beauty, cannot be surpassed by any thing of a like character in the known world. While here, the toad chiming and rhyming spirit of the muses, got hold on me, and I forged out the following precious morsels:

I love to steal an hour away
In some sequestered bow,
And breathe the parting smiles of day
'Neath some romantic flow,
Or climb some lofty towering rock,

Some overhanging hill,
Above the plain and shepherd's flock,
The morning sun,
Or set me in some lonely grove
Where evening zephyrs pass me by,
Where nature whispers nought but love,
And love creates no sigh.
Or place me in some gliding bark,
Some loved one's favorite stream,
Where twilight lingers like a spark,
Beneath the moon's pale beam.
Or lead me to a brother's grave
Where brothers often weep,
Where weeping angels crowd to save,
And watch, and never sleep.
Or place me on some gentle steed
In woods forlorn and wild,
Or let me cross some flowery mead
Where nature always smiled,
Or sit me by some craggy rock,
Some mighty rolling stream,
Away from town and village clock,
And from the sun's bright beam.
Or take me to that mighty place
Where thunders never cease,
Where rainbows dance with comely grace
And wonders never decrease.
Where rolls the mighty cataract
In awful grandeur by,
Where sight reveals the fact
And facts overwhelm the eye.
Where works reveal the power of God
In nature's garb sublime,
Where waters flow without a "rod"
And speak "a God divine"
What e'er I am, where e'er I be,
If where I never tread,
Give me the peace that flows from thee
Thou great eternal God.
The Falls.

We wandered to and fro, all around the Island, during the whole day, admiring the scenery on all sides of us, and culling many beautiful and variegated flowers that grow spontaneously here, until the sable curtains of night warned us that they could most graciously refresh and strengthen us by our going ourselves into their dark keeping, which, after receiving a plentiful supply into our distillery, we cheerfully complied with. Notwithstanding my bodily fatigue, the Falls occupied the whole errand of my nightly visions.

On the 18th, we crossed the river about a mile below the Falls and went over to the Canada side, stopped at the Clifton House—paid two shillings a glass for Lemonade—visited Barnett's Museum, who charged nothing for going in, but two shillings for coming out!! He, like the man, is very accommodating for one's money. His Museum, however, is very well worth seeing. It contains many curiosities, gathered around the Falls, and from different parts of the world. His Camera Obscura gives a good view of the Falls. From this place, we have a full view of the Falls, both on the Canada and American side, which is truly sublime; but the finest view on the Canada side, is from the Clifton House, which entirely baffles description. All the way from this to the Table rock, on the same side, (which is as high up as we can go) there are tremendous precipices, detached rocks, and caverns hundreds of feet perpendicular, besides springs, curious freaks in nature, &c. &c. We descended the steps at Table rock, which are 86, as we did those of Biddle's, on the opposite side, which numbered 90, besides many steps made on the hill side, before reaching them, and went directly under the Falls after reaching the foot of them. This is a difficult matter to accomplish, as the passage is exceedingly rough and narrow, and no one gets there without a gentle drenching, except they are furnished with an Indian rubber suit, which may be procured at the top of the hill. Persons frequently go under, or through a sheet of water, for some distance; when this is done, they are completely under the main fall of water, and the over-hanging rock which it passes over, and at the same time they are at the zenith of their glory, and have accomplished the utmost degree of daring and adventure, and consummated the last or grandest feat which can be attained to here, or their curiosity and perseverance can afford them; for which they receive a certificate on their return, and their names, the date &c., is registered at the top of the hill.

Nothing kept me from trying this, but the timidity of my "better half." I had to yield to her weapon (i.e. tears) and thus debar myself of an adventure that my whole mind and heart were bent upon, dead or alive. Several gentlemen, and one lady, went under while we were there. A guide is necessary here, at all times, who provides for his companions suitable apparel. The whole atmosphere about this place, smells strongly of sulphur; and if there were brimstone and fire about it I would go to it, for it is altogether one of the most sublime, grand, stupendous, overwhelming and awfully picturesque spots that I ever stood upon, or beheld on earth. Nothing is a miniature to it. While we stood overshadowed by a mountain rock, on the one hand, the great Niagara poured over at the other—the deep cavern and abyss of troubled waters rolled under our feet, and the blue vault of Heaven, stretched as a curtain above the whole, none but God himself could know our feelings. We looked up, and the cataract seemed high as Heaven; down and the waters deep as perdition; around and all seemed as strong as the pillars of eternal truth; within, and we felt the impress of God Almighty's power, goodness, and mercy. Thrones, principalities, and powers were nothing to us on this occasion. But God was all in all. He who can stand here, and throw the powers of sight to the top of the Falls and overhanging rocks without seeing any higher or feeling a holy and heavenly impulse, must be less than human. As for me, I shall never forget the impressions there made upon me.

The Niagara Falls are the property and glory of the two greatest nations in the uni-

verse—the pride of them both; a scene of endless admiration; an emblem of heaven's kindness and wisdom,—a bulwark in God's creation, and an incontrovertible proof of his design, power, and wisdom. At one time here the rainbow was under my feet, the earth my chariot, the clouds my companions, and earth-shaking thunder my musical companion! Our exit from this place was attended with those impressions we sometimes have in parting with near and dear friends. On the following day we visited the "Devil's Hole," where the French and Indians, at dead of night, precipitated 295 out of 300 British soldiers to a distance of 150 feet into death's arms and eternity's gates. It was truly to them a "dead march." This is an awful place. From here we went to the "Whirlpool," which will guarantee to any one, aching bones and a panting heart, before he gets to or from it. When there, blind be the eyes, and withered be the heart that would or could not appreciate its endless beauties. This pool is about a half mile in diameter, is round, and receives the whole of the river, which pours into it with great force from the rapids above, where it leaps, roars, and dashes in grand succession. The water, after being made drunk by whirling round and boiling up, finds its way out and pursues its onward course.—The largest oaks are mere playthings for it; they are whirled up and down, and drawn under without any effort; and sometimes they are carried round, under and about here for days before they leave the embraces of this monster of the deep.—The large rocks here roar like thunder, in consequence of the water thrown under them from the whirlpool. We gathered many beautiful specimens of rock about its edge, and then left it.

From this place to the Falls (4 miles) the country is beautiful and level; and there is no more appearance of a river than there is in the sandy deserts of Arabia; and at the same time one of the greatest bodies of water in America courses through a cavity of solid rock, varying in depth from one to two hundred feet, and the perpendicular rocks are as much higher on each side above the surface of the water!

Many tremendous rocks have separated from the great mass and tumbled into the river, both at and below the Falls. We returned by the Sulphur Springs, and again went over and all around the Island. And, to immortalize myself, I carved my name on "Riddle's Steps," and on a small tree on Goat Island, (American side) towards the American Falls, where I expect it will be handed down to posterity as a lasting impression of the searching nature of my penknife! There are many scenes and places about the Falls of noted character and importance to the admirer of the beautiful and the lover of American history; but I must cease detailing, first, for the want of time, and secondly, for want of sense. But while memory lasts, I shall never forget Niagara Falls. I quit them with as much reluctance as I would the grave or last embrace of my nearest friend. And, were I able, my footsteps should mark their soil every year. But "We are passing away from this beautiful earth," and cannot always enjoy the scenes we would. As to a description of the Falls, their origin, time of existence, &c., I have nothing to suggest, because I am entirely incapable of making a beginning at an adequate representation of what they are now. All I have to say is, I have seen, I have admired them, and never expect to "look upon their like again." And I would advise all others of the curious world to go and see them, certainly, surely without fail.

On the morning of August 22d, we took "a last fond look" at the Falls, and "were off." May Heaven spare me to see them again and again!

LAW OF COPYRIGHT.—We have seldom met a stronger illustration of the necessity which exists for an international law of copyright, than a notice which we find in the *New World*—a paper published at New York on the 2d of April. The editor announces that, on the 4th inst., he would print the whole of Sir L. Bulwer's new novel *Zanoni*, in one number of his journal, of 32 quarto pages, to be sold at 124 cents. The injustice of this must be obvious to every body; for, (without referring to Sir L. Bulwer's exclusion from the benefits arising from the sale of his productions in the United States) as American newspapers are allowed to circulate freely in our colonies and in England, the regular editions of *Zanoni* are met and undersold by this practical reprint on British ground. A bookseller at Quebec could, without let or hindrance, order and circulate, a thousand copies of the *New World*, containing *Zanoni*, to the direct injury of the English publisher's interests in Canada; and even a London newspaper could, if he thought proper, import ten times as many, and sell for a shilling what Messrs. Saunders and Otley cannot sell for less than a guinea. We commend this circumstance to the attention of Sergeant Tulfourd and Lord Mahon.—*London Atlas.*

A man in this vicinity once sent a barrel of cranberries to a friend in foreign parts, who had never seen any fruit of the kind. In a few months he received a letter in which his friend expressed great regret that on account of the length of the voyage, the fruit were *sour* when they arrived, and he was consequently obliged to throw them away.—*Ledger.*

The common potato.

It is pretty generally understood that the potato is indigenous to Chili and Peru, in which countries it grows wild. The plant is very common about Valparaiso, and Mr. Cruikshank says, that he has noticed it along the coast for fifteen leagues to the northward of that port. There is one peculiarity ascribed to the wild plant by the gentlemen, viz., that the flowers were all pure white, free from the purple tint so common in the cultivated varieties. Amidst conflicting testimony and opinions on the subject, we must give to Sir Walter Raleigh the credit of introducing the potato. Its introduction into Ireland by him in 1610, is well authenticated by corroborative testimony. Among the anecdotes told of this enterprising voyager, it is said when his gardener at Young-hall in the county of Cork, had reared to the full maturity of apples the potatoes which he had received from the knight, as a fine fruit from America, the man brought to his master one of the apples, and asked if that was the fine fruit. Sir Walter having examined it, was, or feigned to be so dissatisfied that he ordered the "weed" to be rooted out. The gardener obeyed, and in rooting out the weeds found a bushel of potatoes.

The discrepancy of opinion respecting the introduction of the potato into Europe, seems to have arisen from confounding the sweet with the common potato. The latter was introduced into Europe long before the former, and it seems most probable that it was the species brought from New Granada by Hawkins.

Potatoes were first looked upon as a great delicacy, and cultivated by a very few. The Royal Society, in 1663, encouraged a more extensive cultivation of them as a means of preventing famine. Previously to 1664, they were raised only in gardens of the nobility and gentry; but in that year, they were planted, for the first time, in the open fields of Lancashire—a country in which they have ever been very extensively cultivated. Their growth was more rapidly extended in Ireland than in England, and they have long furnished from two-thirds to four-fifths of the entire food of the people of Ireland. Potatoes were not raised in Scotland, except in gardens, till 1728, when they were planted in the open fields by a person by the name of Prentice, a day laborer at Kilsyth.

Some of the good people in Scotland were opposed, at first, to the new vegetable, declaring that "potatoes were not mentioned in the Bible." Some of these priests in the Ionian Islands, at a later period, expostulated probably of the prejudices of the people, manifested their hostility by alleging that the potato was the forbidden fruit, the cause of man's fall; and of course its use was both immoral and irreligious. Of a piece with this was the hostility of the French to the growth of the potato in their country, in the voting against a benevolent gentleman who took pains to foster its culture, under the plea that he had invented the potato.

The potato was introduced from England into the Netherlands, and thence into Germany, in the early part of the last century. It was first cultivated in 1620, but notwithstanding the exertions and recommendations of Linnæus, it did not come into general cultivation until 1764, when a royal edict was published for the encouragement of this branch of husbandry.

In France, much of the final success of its more extended cultivation was due to the final success of its more extended cultivation was due to the exertions of the benevolent Parmentier, who persevered amidst opposition and ridicule of all kinds. For a while, the king, Louis XVI, and his court, wore the flower of the potato in the button-holes of their coats, as a means of exciting popular favor, or what at that time was equivalent, fashion, on its side. The dearth in the first year of the revolution, served to direct attention more and more to the cultivation of the potato, which, after a time, became general. To it were the people of France and other parts of Europe indebted for protection against famine, in the disastrous years of 1816 and 1817. We might suppose, however, from the following incident, that the prejudices against the root were not so great in all parts of France, even at the time in which Parmentier was laboring so hard in its favor. In seven years' war—1756-1763—a small detachment of the French army, while in Saxony, having its supplies wholly cut off, the soldiers subsisted for eight or ten days entirely on potatoes, obtained from fields, nor was the manner of living considered among them as by any means a hardship. Less than thirty years before this event, the potato was unknown to the agriculturists of Saxony.

About the middle of the last century, the culture of the potato in Switzerland, which was begun 1720, has so much increased, that it constituted the food of two thirds of the people. In the present day, it still forms a leading article of food among the peasantry of that country. In Italy, within the present century, the cultivation of the potato has been greatly encouraged; and the traveller in the city of Naples, for instance, must remember the large vessels filled with boiled potatoes, in the public streets, and near the royal palace itself, from which, at a cheap rate, the poor and lazzaroni can procure a wholesome meal—the supply of their favorite macaroni being deficient or too dear.

Potatoes eaten raw have been found to be among the best remedies for the scurvy, as well as an excellent preventive.