



BEET CULTURE IN AMERICA.

The disastrous failure of the beet crop in France this year will call attention to the cultivation of that article in this country. While it may be too soon to indulge in any great measure of enthusiasm on the subject, experiments thus far made certainly justify liberal expenditures of effort in this direction. We possess plenty of the soil suited to the beet, while the sunshine that is so absolutely indispensable for the formation of the saccharine juices seems all that could be desired. A correspondent of the Boston Journal recently visited a company who are now actively engaged in the production of beet sugar in Maine. This company were making arrangements to contract for much larger areas of beet fields than heretofore, in view of the exportation of a quantity of the most approved machinery from Germany. The price to be paid for the beets was one dollar per ton in excess of last year's prices. From the officers of the company many very interesting facts were elicited. Twenty tons per acre is regarded as a very satisfactory crop, but the average last year was only fifteen tons. Some farmers, however, raised forty tons per acre, and one secured forty-nine and a half tons. According to these authorities, the average crop in France is twenty-three tons to the acre, although other authorities place it at rather less. The beets are bought from the farmers at \$6 per ton delivered at the works, and yield about nine per cent. of their weight in sugar, and then about three per cent. of syrup. In addition to the sugar and syrup, one ton of pulp is yielded by each five tons of beets, and this pulp, which the farmers pronounce better food for cattle than the beets themselves, is sold at \$1.50 per ton.

It is suggested that the size of the beet largely affects its value to the sugar-makers. Thus far, the same price has been paid for large and small, but the larger beets appear to produce more water with a less proportion of sugar than do the small ones. In this connection, it appears that coarse manures such as would be desirable in the case of vegetables in which size is an appreciable qualification, are not desirable for beets, and besides enlarging them and thus adding to weight without a proportionate increase of sugar, they strengthen the weeds. These, in their turn, choke the beets and prevent them from getting the much-needed sunshine. Samples taken from fields manured with special fertilizers yielded twenty-five per cent. more than the average. At present, the Company offer to supply farmers with the seed and all the tools necessary for cultivation, and to take payment in beets when the crop is harvested. To each farmer purchasing seed, tools, and to all other inquirers, the necessary instructions are furnished. These are simple and consist of the following rules:

Flow deeply, and, if possible, the fall before. Harrow, until thoroughly pulverized, and sow as early as the ground can be got ready. Manure liberally, and in most cases use a little fine manure, or superphosphate, in the drill. Use plenty of seed; sow it not more than one inch, or less than half an inch deep. Hoe as early as the rows can be plainly seen, and thin out to eight or ten inches apart in the row, before the beets get much larger than a pipe-stem, keeping the ground clean and loose until the leaves get large enough to cover the ground. With these conditions a good crop is almost absolutely sure.

That the culture of the beet is likely to prove extraordinarily lucrative is not suggested; that it will prove fairly remunerative is probably beyond dispute. When it is remembered that the present annual consumption of sugar in this country is not far short of 750,000 tons, and that the present production of the country is less than 100,000 tons, the balance being imported at a cost of \$100,000,000, the desirableness and probability of an extensive beet culture are manifest.

Pulling at the Halter.

From the New York Observer.
Your correspondent, Mr. S. E. Swift, asks for a cure. Without great experience in handling horses, I have

found *diversion* a valuable principle in dealing with them, and in this way cured an obstinate "halter puller," just such as he describes. I took a good, well-twisted cord, slightly thicker than a lead pencil, strong enough to bear some strain, and yet not so large as to prevent it stinging a little, and of sufficient length, passed it under the tail, twisting it double to secure direct pull, as it ran over the back and under the saddle, and then an end through each bit-ring, and making there a simple slip-knot, which would give at once upon tension, still keeping the cord in the ring, and running it beyond, tied it tightly to the hitching post. I thus had him in fact tied up by the tail. Then I tied him up by the bridle rein, shorter than by the cord, making the tie to the post with a slip-knot, which would give upon the least tug, and stepped aside to see the result.

The fault of pulling is one of education, I believe. The horse, having at some time been hurt while hitched by the bridle, fearing repetition, has learned, as he supposes, the cause of his injury to lie in the being hitched and so to avoid the repetition of the injury, he deliberately tugs at his hitching strap until it breaks. Accepting this idea, and the theory that to make his tug the source of punishment at some other point, the application of the mode I followed is seen.

The result was, so soon as left to himself, he began to pull, the bridle slipped loose quietly, and before he got to the end, as he supposed, he brought up sharply against the now tightened cord, which, stinging him severely, yet not cutting the skin under the tail, made him spring forward and away from "a fire in the rear." I repeated it by again tying him up by the bridle, but I had to "back" him the second time, and within 15 minutes, I couldn't force him back, nor would he stir so as to tighten the bridle rein, although I flung an umbrella and threw a robe in his face. He never again, while I knew him, for five years after, pulled on his halter. I have no doubt this mode, in repeated lessons, will cure any horse of the fault. It is true education.

Very respectfully yours,

A. S.

Profitable Bees.

A well-known bee-keeper in this State gives the American Bee Journal a report of his profits from bee-keeping for the past seven years. He says: "Our average yield for each colony in the spring of 1873, was 80 pounds; in 1874, a fraction of a pound less than 100; in 1875, a little over 100; in 1876, just 100; in 1877, a little less than 167; 1878, 71; and in 1879—the present season—58 pounds, making an average yield of a little over 90 pounds per colony for the term of seven years. By looking over our diary we ascertain that our honey has sold at an average price of 21 1/2 cents per pound, the highest price having been obtained (28 1/2 cts.) in 1874, and the lowest (10 3-c.) in 1878.

"From past experience, we believe a thorough practical workingman can do all the work required to be done with 100 colonies of bees, and from the above he should obtain for an average term of years, 6,000 pounds of honey annually, which at 21 1/2 cts. per pound would bring him a yearly income of \$1,912.50. Although the average yield per colony for seven years to come may be increased, yet the price during that time is likely to be lower, as the high prices caused by the war are passed, and unless we have some unforeseen event to raise the price of honey, it will probably never bring 28 cents per pound again. Still, with a much lower price for honey than that averaged for the last seven years, bee-keeping ranks favorably with almost any other pursuit."

Unshod Horses.

It has been before stated that an experienced farrier in England was advocating the abolition of horse-shoeing, and now a writer in the London Times has been trying the experiment, and thus reports: "When my pony's shoes were worn out I had them removed, and gave him a month's rest at grass, with an occasional drive of a mile or two on the high road while his hoofs were hardening. The result at first seemed doubtful. The hoof was a thin shell, and kept chipping away until it had worked down beyond the holes of the nails by which the shoes had been fastened. After this the hoof grew thick and hard, quite unlike what it had been before. I now put the pony to full work, and

he stands it well. He is more sure footed; his tread is almost noiseless; his hoofs are in no danger from the rough hand of the farrier; and the change altogether has been a clear gain, without anything to set against it. My pony, I may add, was between four and five years old—rising four, I fancy, is the correct phrase. He had been regularly shod up to the present year."

A dispatch from Paris says: "The beet crop is even worse than was anticipated, and the price of sugar has sensibly risen. Many refineries have come to a stand-still, and nearly all are likely to terminate their operations by the end of December. The quality of the crop is inferior and the quantity deficient."

Joshua Woodbury made record in the year 1761 that he had just set out two apple trees "for posterity's sake." The trees still stand on a farm at Cape Elizabeth, Cumberland county, Me., and this year bore two barrels of good apples.

Many a farmer has one or more cows which it will be no advantage to him to keep through the winter. By putting far upon them and sending them to the butcher, he will both save money and make money.

The farm products of Illinois will amount the present year, to \$200,000,000! which is double the product of all the gold and silver mines in the United States.

It is said that the cotton crop this year will be fully 500,000 bales more than ever before.

CAESAR AND REVOLUTION.

The consulship of Caesar was the last chance for the Roman aristocracy. He was not a revolutionist. Revolutions are the desperate remedy when all else has failed. They may create as many evils as they cure, and wise men always hate them. But if revolution was to be escaped, reform was inevitable, and it was for the senate to choose between the alternatives. Could the noble lords have known then, in that their day, the things that belonged to their peace—could they have forgotten their fishponds and their game preserves, and have remembered that, as the rulers of the civilized world, they had duties which the eternal order of nature would exact at their hands, the shaken constitution might again have regained its stability, and the forms and even the reality of the republic might have continued for another century. It was not to be. Had the Senate been capable of using the opportunity, they would long before have undertaken a reformation for themselves. Even had their eyes been open, there were disintegrating forces with which the highest political wisdom could do no more than arrest; and little good is really effected by prolonging artificially the lives of either constitutions or individuals beyond their natural period. From the time when Rome became an empire, mistress of provinces to which she was unable to extend her own liberties, the days of her self-government were numbered. A homogeneous and vigorous people may manage their own affairs under a popular constitution so long as their personal characters remain undegenerate. Parliaments and Senates may represent the general will of the community, and may pass laws and administer them as public sentiment approves. But such bodies can preside successfully only among subjects who are directly represented in them. They are too ignorant, too selfish, too divided to govern others; and imperial aspirations draw after them, by obvious necessity, an imperial rule. Caesar may have known this in his heart, yet the most far-seeing statesman will not so trust his own misgivings as to refuse to hope for the regeneration of the institutions into which he is born. He will determine that justice shall be done. Justice is the essence of government, and without justice all forms, democratic or monarchic, are tyrannies alike. But he will work with the existing methods till the inadequacy of them has been proved beyond dispute. Constitutions are never overthrown till they have pronounced sentence on themselves.—J. A. Froude.

The Chester Bulletin says that a young man of that county, endeavoring to sell a lady a patent churn, guaranteed that he could "bring butter" in ten minutes. The lady, in order to try him, filled the churn and put him to work. He had churned an hour before he found he was churning buttermilk.

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A MIRACLE.

WEST POINT, GA., Sept. 16, 1870. GENTS:—My daughter was taken with the day of June, 1870, with what was supposed to be Acute Rheumatism, and was treated for the same with no success. In March, following, she began to work out of the right arm, and continued to appear ill all the time from the elbow to the shoulder joint came out. Many pieces of bone came out of the right foot and leg. The case was then pronounced one of Yellow Fever. After having been confined about six years to her bed, and the case considered hopeless, I was induced to try Dr. Pemberton's Stillinger, and I have been cured. My daughter was confined to her bed about six years before she sat up or even turned over without help. She now sits up all day, and owes most of her health to the use of the Stillinger. Her general health is now good, and I believe she will, as her limbs gain strength, walk again. I attribute her recovery, with the blessing of God, to the use of your invaluable medicine. With gratitude, I am, yours truly, W. B. BLANTON.

WEST POINT, GA., Sept. 16, 1870.

GENTS:—The above certificate of Mr. W. B. Blanton we know and certify to be true. The thing is so; hundreds of the most respected citizens will only tell us. As much reference can be given as may be required. Yours truly, CRAWFORD & WALKER, Druggists.

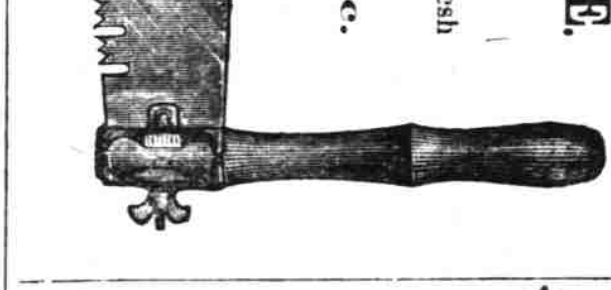
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