

I trust, be convinced that it is your interest to adopt some means for their preservation.—*Hodges' Lecture on Agricultural Chemistry.*

AGRICULTURAL IMPROVEMENT.—Having often observed the great and expensive waste of substances and liquids possessing the most fertilising properties, I began to consider the best method of saving and applying it. There is a great waste of slaughter-house washing and garbage, not any of which should be lost; it should be laded up and put into a water-tight cart or cask, and conveyed where it is to be used, thus:—Make a trench, as if going to plant celery, pour and put into this trench the above matter, and turn a little earth lightly over it; at about eighteen inches or two feet distance make another trench, and sow or plant what you wish—vetches and a few oats, with clovers, which are good for horses or cattle, and will thrive and cut in February or March. You may sow sunflower-seed, which is very productive: every part is useful, every animal will fatten on the seed, and horses and cattle will eat the stem and leaves. When the sunflowers are about eighteen inches or two feet high, put stakes at proper distances, and tie long sticks across from one to the other; these will be very serviceable to support them, and fully repay the trouble. Observe, I particularly call your attention to the use of slaughter-house washings, blood, and garbage: to these may be added all the soap-suds and slops of the house; or make a manure-heap, in the upper corner of your field or garden, of dry leaves, &c., making it a little hollow in the middle, and there throw your soap-suds and slops.—S. C.

How to RAISE TURKEYS.—The attention of our readers has been repeatedly called to the subject of poultry—in the vicinity of our large cities, perhaps no stock is so profitable. Some good practical hints may be taken from the following, which the editor of the *New Jersey Journal* gives us the result of considerable experience of his own. The young turkey is proverbially a tender chick, and it is a nice matter to know how to manage him properly. [Farmer's Cabinet.

We believe it is common among farmers to say that a turkey's head costs twice as much as its body is worth when fattened. This we do not believe to be true, if he is properly managed; but on the contrary, we believe that nothing can be raised and turned to so great a profit. But turkeys must have care, especially when young; but this care will not trench on the business of the farmer, as it may be done by females or the younger branches of the family—and beside, the little damage they may do to grass or other things, must not be magnified tenfold, as is usually the case. But by proper attention they will do no damage at all.

Before giving our rules to be observed in raising turkeys let us draw a comparison. There are but few farmers but can raise 100 turkeys,—these 100 turkeys will weigh, when fattened, in December, upon an average, seven and a half pounds each, full dressed. We say full dressed for it is the practice in some places to divest the turkey of nothing but its head and feathers, and then take it to market. A practice as uncivilized as it is disgusting. These hundred turkeys then will weigh 750 lbs., which in market are equal to 1,500 lbs. of pork. But if the male turkeys are kept until February or March, they will not only increase in weight, twice the amount of their feed, but the price in the market will be much higher.

We will now give the rules to be observed in raising and fattening them, founded wholly on our experience. Turkeys intended for breeders must be kept well during the winter. Is put in good condition, however, in December, it takes but little feed to keep them so. Their nests for laying must be made with hay or oat straw under cover, and be well protected from the weather, and from vermin. When incubation commences, the turkey must not be disturbed, and if she does not come from her nest for food and water, she must have both placed by her on her nest. When the young turkeys are hatched, they may be allowed to remain one day on the nest, or if removed, let them be sheltered in a warm place, and plenty of straw for them to set upon, for they are now extremely liable to take cold. The second day feed them

with curds, or warm clabbered milk mixed with a little Indian or barley meal. They must be kept up and fed in this way for two or three days, and longer if the weather should be cold or rainy, but as soon as a warm and pleasant day comes, let them out at nine or ten o'clock, and shut them up at four—and this practice of letting them out and shutting up must be followed for five or six weeks, and on no account let them get wet. When a young turkey begins to droop there is but little hope for it. There is no danger of keeping them too warm. When they are five or six weeks old put a little grease on their heads to preserve them from lice.

At the age of six or eight weeks the turkey is more hardy, but still should not be exposed to rains or the damp nights, for a few weeks longer. If the farmer has a plot of grass let him enclose a yard with a high fence, and crop the wings of the old turkeys, and continue to feed them with clabbered milk, and whatever else he pleases that comes from the kitchen, such as broken bread, potatoes, and the like. If he has a clover field, as soon as it is mown, let them run on it, and they will live on young clover. And as soon as the crops are off the ground, say in August or September, let them range on the farm; but see to it, that they come to their roosting place at night, and have water.

In December the turkeys will be large enough to fatten, and for this purpose select as many as you please, and shut them up,—next take to the mill a few bushel of ears of Indian corn and have it ground—then boil potatoes, and mix the meal with the scalding water and potatoes in a tub, say in the proportion of one bushel potatoes to one peck or more of meal, and stir them well together, then let it cool, but give it to the turkeys a warm as they will bear it, and as much as they will eat and in two weeks and a half, they will be fat enough for market, and for an alderman's dinner.

We do not take this from books, but from several years' experience. We kept an exact account of the expense of raising and fattening a flock, and at the rate of ten cents a pound full dressed—we received \$72, while our cost exclusive of sour milk, was less than \$10. If any farmer does not wish to be at the *peril* trouble of raising them, but should have a small flock to fatten, that have lived "in spite of wind and weather," let him adopt our rules of fattening, and he will "save much corn." On a large farm, and with a large yard and a butter dairy with proper attention we believe it may be made a leading business to great profit.

"Though we have repeatedly expressed doubts as to the utility of agricultural shows, we have none upon the importance of a better agricultural education than has hitherto been generally imparted to those who purpose pursuing the occupation of a farmer."

We are gratified in being enabled to quote an authority of such importance as the *Times*, in behalf of the advantage of "a better agricultural education" than has been hitherto given to those who would pursue the cultivation of the soil as their occupation. Scotland is again taking the lead on this subject, and we presume that as usual England will follow, in the course of another half-century. We are glad to observe in the south some movement in furtherance of agricultural education. The Agricultural College at Cirencester is making advance. We learn that at "a recent meeting of the Committee of the Cirencester Agricultural College, Mr. Scales, an experienced Norfolk farmer, whose acquirements are said to be first-rate, was appointed head master; and that he produced a most favourable impression on the committee on a personal interview. The committee is now in communication with a gentleman, strongly recommended by Dr. Daubency and Professor Graham, as Professor of Chemistry." We heartily wish success to the enterprising and persevering individuals who are the promoters of this establishment. As bearing on this subject, we have much pleasure in noticing the establishment of an agricultural training school about to be opened at Hoddesdon, Herts, on the 11th instant, under the direction of a committee of management, for general and scientific educa-